FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FATAH LEADER DISCUSSES PALESTINIAN ACTION-IRAN

LD071729 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 5 Feb p 9 LD

[Fathi Sharif interview with Fatah movement Executive Committee member Khalid al-Hasan--date and place not specified]

[Excerpts] Khalid al-Hasan, Fatah movement Executive Committee member, has said that the resolutions adopted at the recent Palestine National Council [PNC] meetings in Damascus represent a turning point in the Palestinian national action movement at the coming stage.

In a statement to AS-SIYASAH he said that the 14th PNC session was held in a political atmosphere completely different from that which prevailed at the two previous sessions. The new atmosphere was the result of the Camp David and Blair House agreements and meetings and the proposed Egyptian-Israeli peace agreement as well as the plan for so-called self-rule for the inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza.

Khalid al-Hasan added: The new atmosphere, in fact, represented a new challenge to the Palestinian will and the Palestinian decision in view of the plot aimed at separating Egypt from the Arab world to serve Zionist interests.

Continuing, Khalid al-Hasan said: On the other hand, the Arab summit in Baghdad and the political and financial resolutions resulting from it have achieved Arab solidarity at a minimum level as far as struggle is concerned and a maximum level financially. What happened at Blair House has put an end once and for all to the U.S.-Israeli settlement course and completely exposed the U.S.-Israeli concept of peace and of peaceful negotiations in the present circumstances on the basis of Resolution 242 and its interpretation in favor of the U.S.-Israel concept of peace. Therefore, the PNC faced a new situation in the shape of the Carter-As-Sadat-Begin stand on the one hand and the Baghdad summit and the Iraqi-Syrian rapprochement on the other, a rapprochement that has restored the right atmosphere for Arab action to achieve peace based on justice.

For this reason the PNC political resolutions were a clear expression of rejection of the Camp David and Blair House agreements as well as the proposed self-rule. The resolutions defined a political stand on how to help our people in the occupied territories to stand fast and reject the self-rule plan and on the formulation of relations with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordon within this framework. The PNC decided on matters relating to the qualitative and quantitative escalation of armed struggle inside the occupied territories. It also agreed on the achievement of greater unity and cohesion of the revolution's resources through the various resistance factions joining PLO financial, military, political and information institutions so that the Palestinian command will become more effective in implementing its political decisions.

AL-HASAN added: With regard to the unity of the revolution's resources, an agreement was reached on general principles. The PLO Executive Committee and the PNC bureau have been given powers to implement steps insuring the establishment and management of the unified Palestinian institutions, particularly those concerning financial, military and social matters.

I told Khalid al-Hasan: Do you believe that the unity of the Palestinian action's resources will be achieved as a result of the recent PNC resolutions despite the fact that there are certain apparent differences that have not been settled?

He replied: I hope so because in the final analysis the matter depends on the PLO Executive Committee and its ability to resist Arab "sabotage" inside the Palestinian arena.

I asked him: What do you mean by "Arab sabotage?"

He declined to comment, but said: I will leave this for some other time.

I told Khalid al-Hasan: Recently, Egypt declared that it still refused to conclude any separate peace agreement and that it will refuse to sign any agreement giving Israel a priviliged position or priorities over Arab rights. Do you not think that this will create difficulties that might hinder the signing of an agreement?

Khalid al-Hasan said: The information I have indicates quite the contrary. This information confirms that President as-Sadat wishes to sign an agreement at any cost. Even at this moment he is thinking of how to solve Israel's economic and oil problems. If no agreement is signed between Egypt and Israel the reason will be Begin, not As-Sadat, and anticipated developments in the situation in Iran.

Israel has so far rejected all the formal concessions made by As-Sadat and conveyed by Secretary of State Vance last December and later by Atherton, despite the fact that these were endorsed by the United States.

I asked Khalid al-Hasan whether he believes that recent developments in Iran will change the balance of power in the area in favor of the Palestinian action. I asked: Did you take all the eventualities of the situation into consideration and consider how to exploit these developments in order to strengthen the Palestinian stand and strike at the Zionist influence in Iran?

Al-Hasan said: The events in Iran have shown beyond any doubt the great difference between the Iranian people's views and the views of the shah's regime toward Israel and the Palestinian people. Whatever the outcome of what is happening in Iran, the Iranian situation has reached the point of no return with regard to the friendly relations between Israel and Iran. This is definitely in the interest of the Palestinian problem, the Palestinian struggle and the Arab movement against imperialism and foreign domination. The situation in Iran will not go back to what it used to be and will have far-reaching effects on U.S. interests in the area.

Khalid al-Hasan added: The current smuggling of sophisticated Iranian weapons out of Iran and the dismantling of the extremely complex U.S. military equipment for removal reflect the direction and depth of the coming change in Iran and the area. Khomeyni's success represents the final battle against the United States and Israel in Iran following the downfall of a principal U.S. stategic link in the Middle East and Far East.

At what level, I asked?

He said: At leadership level, of course.

I told Khalid al-Hasan: It was reiterated recently that the Palestinian leadership is somewhat apprehensive about the Sino-U.S. rapprochement on the grounds that China's role in the field of supporting world liberation movements and particularly the Palestinian action movement might be frozen.

He said: There was no such feeling in the first place and we did not express any apprehension to the Chinese officials, as has been reiterated. So far there has been no change whatsoever in China's attitude toward the Palestinian revolution and the Palestinian people's rights or in the principled stand that China adopted toward the Palestinian people's cause since 1964 and to this very day.

I asked Khalid al-Hasan: In a recent statement Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] threatened that the Palestinian revolution will fight Israel everywhere and will strike violently at its agents at any time and in any place. Does this mean that there will be more violent Fedayeen operations in the future and do you expect an escalation of the situation in the occupied territories?

Al-Hasan said: Our military struggle against the Israeli enemy is a strategic matter and not a transitional or tactical stage. The continuation and the escalation of the struggle is a strategic line whether 'Ali Hasan Salamah has become a martyr or not. Salamah's martyrdom has thrown further light on the nature and depth of the conflict with the Zionist enemy.

Al-Hasan added: Is not what has long been happening in occupied Palestine a qualitative and quantitative escalation of our armed struggle? Are not the Zionist coercive measures against our people in towns and villages an expression of the enemy's reaction to this escalation? Is not the enemy's return to the method of collective punishment in towns and villages a hysterical reaction by the Zionist enemy to military operations inside the occupied territories?

PLO OFFICIAL ON ISRAELIS' MISTREATMENT OF PALESTINIANS

NC070635 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2307 GMT 7 Feb 79 NC

[Excerpt] Washington, 7 February--Dr Hatim al-Busayni, the director of the PLO office in Washington, has welcomed the reports which the Washington POST has published revealing the Israelis' mistreatment of the Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories. He has also expressed satisfaction with the fact that the U.S. State Department has confirmed the authenticity of these reports, which reveal the Israelis' barbaric actions against the Arabs in the occupied Arab territories.

Al-Husayni said: This is the first time a widely influential paper like the Washington POST has reviewed in detail the barbaric actions and crimes which the Israelis are committing in the occupied territories.

Al-Husayni told MENA's correspondent that this should have happened a long time ago. He said that he will submit a report, which the PLO's office in Geneva has prepared on Israel's human rights violations to members of the Congress and other American organizations known for their sympathy with the Arabs.

Al-Husayni expressed hope that positive measures will be adopted to safeguard the rights of those Palestinian people who are being subjected to the Israeli acts of torture. He explained in this regard that the United States can play an effective role in the realization of this aim by halting its economic and military aid, which helps the Israeli occupation authorities practice acts of torture against the Palestinian people.

AR-RIYADH INTERVIEWS PLO'S ABU MAZIN 8 FEBRUARY

LD081022 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0620 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] Riyadh--Abu Mazin, member of the Central Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), hailed the continuous backing which the kingdom is giving to the PLO. He said that the kingdom has contributed more than 70 percent of the support of the steadfastness of Arab patriots in the occupied territories.

In a statement made to AR-RIYADH, published today, Abu Mazin said that his current visit to the kingdom falls within an Arab and international tour to discuss the present and future of the Palestinian issue and to explain the results of the Palestine National Council.

VOP: 'ARAFAT TO VISIT GULF AREA AFTER SAUDI ARABIA

JN080701 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab world 0530 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar met in Jidda last night with Saudi Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The meeting was attended by brother Abu Mazin, Fatah Central Committee member.

Brother Abu 'Ammar arrived in Jidda yesterday morning on a visit to Saudi Arabia for talks with Saudi officials on the general situation in the area and the latest developments in the Palestinian issue.

Brother Abu 'Ammar's visit to Saudi Arabia is part of an Arab tour that will take him to several Arab Gulf states for consultations with the officials in these countries regarding area developments.

ARAB NEWS AGENCIES CHAIRMAN ON SUSPENSION OF MENA, SUNA

NC031340 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 3 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Muhammad al-Mashnuq, chairman of the Federation of Arab News Agencies, has stated that the Federation General Assembly's decision to suspend the membership of the Middle EAST NEWS AGENCY [MENA] and the SUDAN NEWS AGENCY [SUNA] was adopted unanimously during the assembly meetings which ended in Beirut yesterday and which were attended by 15 directors of Arab news agencies. The directors of the Egyptian, Sudanese and North Yemen news agencies did not attend.

In his capacity as chairman of the federation, Al-Mashnuq emphasized that the suspension decision was made strictly on the basis of the press agencies' interests and had nothing to do with any political attitude.

BAHRAIN

GULF INFORMATION MINISTERS MEET, APPROVE PLANS

JN071751 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpts] Manama, 7 February--The fourth conference of the information ministers of the Arab Gulf states approved in today's session the television work charter of the gulf states. It also approved the radio and television training program for 1979. The conference also decided to support the Arab Center for Radio and Television Training in Damascus and to utilize it for fulfilling the needs of the Arab Gulf states in the field of training.

The conference also approved the principle of absolute solidarity among the gulf states in the field of cooperation with companies producing and distributing television programs, because failure of any of these states to apply the principle of solidarity will necessarily lead to the abortion of all efforts made in this connection.

The conference approved in principle the agreement to establish a center for information documentation for the gulf states in Baghdad. It also approved several methods to facilitate the distribution of gulf newspapers in the gulf area. It also approved the 1979 plan for oil information and decided to form a committee embracing Iraq, Qatar, and the UAE under Kuwaiti Information Ministry Under Secretary Sa'dun al-Jasim to implement the plan in coordination with OPEC.

The conference also decided to hold the fifth conference of the information ministers of the gulf states in the first week of February 1980 in Doha, Qatar. The conference will announce its resolutions in the final session it will hold Thursday morning.

KUWAIT

PDRY'S 'ABD AL-FATTAH ISMA'IL ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

ID051638 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Feb 79 ID

[Excerpts] KUNA, Kuwait, 5 Feb 1979, KUNA--President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il of the PDRY arrived here today from Damascus on a 3-day state visit. He was welcomed at the airport by the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, who will be having talks with him which are expected to focus on relations between the two Arab countries, development of events in the Middle East, and the situation in the gulf in the light of events in Iran.

Taking part in the official welcome were also Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, senior statesmen and other officials.

When President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il descended from the Libyan plane in which he flew from Damascus, together with a high-ranking delegation, there was a 21-gun salute for him; then, together with the amir, he inspected the guard of honor.

In a statement he made on his arrival, President 'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il said that relations between the PDRY and Kuwait have been distinguished in the last few years by "cordiality, fraternal mutual respect, and a positive contribution of support and assistance to the Arab destiny."

President Isma'il voiced his conviction that this visit will provide an opportunity to hold talks and consultations on bilateral relations and their further development, and to exchange views on a number of Arab and international issues and the situation in the region, especially at a time when our Arab nation is going through internal divisions after the capitulatory Camp David agreement, and following the dangers posed by imperialist and Zionist conspiracies aimed at encroaching upon its national sovereignty and its own exploitation of its national resources."

He added: "We highly appreciate the fraternal assistance given by the fraternal people of Kuwait and its government to our people in the PDRY for its economic and social development."

FINANCE MINISTER HOLDS MEETING WITH YUGOSLAV COUNTERPART

LD072220 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1200 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait, 7 Feb KUNA--A Kuwaiti-Yugoslav joint committee met here today to discuss means of promoting economic and trade relations between the two countries. The meeting was chaired by Yugoslav Finance Minister Petar Kostic and Kuwaiti Finance Minister 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Atiqi.

Al-Atiqi said that the meeting was the periodical meeting of the committee which meets once a year. It was held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and desire to realize further achievements in the field of cooperation between the two countries.

The Yugoslav minister also had a meeting with Public Works Minister an-Nisf.

The Yugoslav minister, who accompanied President Tito when he visited Kuwait, stayed behind in Kuwait.

OMAN

PFLO ORGAN CITED ON U.S. PRESENCE IN OMAN

LD062114 Aden Voice of Oman in Arabic 1545 GMT 6 Feb 79 LD/EA

[Text] Regarding the (?invitation) of the Muscat agent regime of Qabus to American imperialism to transfer its espionage systems from Iran to Oman, as recently reported by news agencies, the newspaper SAWT ATH-THAWRAH, organ of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman [PFLO], Information Committee, has this to say:

The outlines and angles of the hitherto blurred picture have now become clearer with regard to the exchange of roles among the imperialist forces in the Sultanate of Oman. Britain once had complete hegemony over Oman's resources; then in 1973 the United States took Britain's place. Thus, the United States acquired use of the Al-Masirah Base in 1975, after Qabus had visited Washington at the beginning of the year.

The Muscat regime has failed to conceal this American expansion. The under secretary of the Foreign Ministry of the Qabus regime stated: We have granted the United States naval facilities on Al-Masirah Island. He said this to justify the renting of Al-Masirah Island to the U.S. Defense Department by Qabus. This took place after Britain's declaration that it would withdraw its military units from the island at the end of March, 1977.

The renting of the Omani island of Al-Masirah by the United States coincided with the White House statement that the Arab Gulf is part of the area of American strategic interest.

A number of changes being introduced in the island's naval and air bases go hand in hand with the Americanization of the island.

For some time now the United States has been taking a new look at the Sultanate of Oman, as it considers that strengthening the Qabus' regime militarily and economically at the present stage will serve its immediate and long-range objectives. In 8 years, the number of troops has risen from 3,000 in 1971 to 13,000 in 1978, distributed among the various military branches--ground, naval and air. They are also strengthening the espionage and police systems. These forces are now being trained by 250 officers from the navy and 150 officers from the air force, most of whom are British or Jordanian.

Recently, and as a result of the gathering momentum of the popular opposition to the shah's regime in Iran, the United States has resorted to withdrawaing most of its military espionage installations from Iran and distributing them on Oman territory.

This was confirmed by President Carter in a reply at his press conference on 20 January 1979 on the espionage systems and their effectiveness in spying against the Soviet Union. He said the systems had not lost their effectiveness because they had been transferred to areas near Iran. Thus these systems are doing their normal work. President Carter, however, concealed from the world the names of the countries to which the espionage systems had been transferred so as not to embarrass his agents. But at the time, news agencies reported from Washington that the U.S. Government had resolved to reinforce its military presence in Oman by establishing espionage stations there.

Washington relies on intensifying its military presence in Oman because of the military advantages of Al-Masirah island. The island is virtually empty except for workers employed there, who with their families number no more than 400, and furthermore there is a 3-5 mile wide strait separating the island from the Omani mainland. We must also take into account the size of the island--about 600 square kilometers. All these advantages assure an American military presence for some time because of their remoteness from contact with the Omani masses. The Americans, furthermore, have full control of the approaches to the island. Their position in the island gives them direct supervision over the entire gulf region and the Arab Peninsula and enables them to observe events in these areas.

The Qabus regime, which has been facing armed mass opposition for 15 years, represented by the PFLO, and which has sought the aid of the shah's military forces for its protection since 1973, felt panic because of the mass uprisings in Iran leading to the forced departure from Iran of his strong ally, the Shah. Qabus is now sending out S.O.S. messages to Washington and London to insure his survival. Washington and London have agreed to maintain his status, if only for a while. The two have advised him to approach As-Sadat, who has raised the slogan of helping the regimes which resist the alleged communist tide in Africa and Arabia. In promotion of this new situation, Husni Mubarak, As-Sadat's deputy, went to Muscat in December last year to familiarize himself with the needs of the Muscat regime following the departure of the Iranian forces from Oman.

The Nixon Doctrine is still being implemented. This doctrine says: Let Asians fight Asians.

In light of Washington's increasing interest in Muscat, former U.S. President Gerald Ford arrived in Muscat on 24 January and spent 2 days there as part of his tour of several Middle Eastern countries.

Carter's assertion at his recent press conference on 23 January that the United States will no longer resort to playing the role of world policeman, should be taken to have an opposite meaning, namely, that the United States will continue to use its instruments, the agent regimes of the world, to play the role of watchdog over imperialist interests in various parts of the world.

The Qabus' regime in Muscat belongs to the circle of regimes which imperialist circles can rely on to play certain roles in the service of imperialist interests in the Arab Gulf region, albeit for a short time only.

SAUDI ARABIA

SPOKESMAN DENIES OIL PRODUCTION CUTBACK, S. AFRICA DEAL

LD071647 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 7 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT bureau report]

[Text] Jidda--In an exclusive statement to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, Dr 'Abd al-Hadi Tahir, governor of the Saudi Petroleum and Minerals Organization (PETROMIN), denied news agency and world press reports that Saudi Arabia will reduce its daily oil production from its current level (about 10 million barrels per day) to 8 million barrels per day.

Dr Tahir said that there has been no change in the Kingdom's current oil production policy.

Dr Tahir also denied reports that contacts are currently taking place on supplying South Africa with its oil needs for a period of 1 year in return for payment in advance in gold at a very high price of up to $30 per barrel (current average price being $13.4). The PETROMIN governor said that the Kingdom does not deal with any racist state or with any company, oil company or otherwise, that deals with South Africa. It is recalled that the gold price has risen in the past 2 days as a result of this false rumor. U.S. press reports early this week said that Saudi Arabia intends to reduce its daily oil production to about 8.5 million barrels while other press reports said the Kingdom will reduce its daily production to about 9.5 million barrels during the first quarter of this year. About 3 weeks ago press reports alleged that Saudi Arabia had agreed to sell oil to South Africa in return for gold but apparently the purpose of such rumors was to raise gold prices since Africa controls most of the world's gold.

KUWAITI PETROLEUM MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS

LD071216 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Text] At noon today, Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah arrived in Jidda on a visit to the Kingdom during which he is to hold talks with Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, on petroleum issues of interest to both countries. The Kuwaiti minister was met at the airport by Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani and a number of senior officials from the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs.

PLO'S YASIR 'ARAFAT DEPARTS SAUDI ARABIA

LD080832 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0755 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] Jidda--Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO, left Jidda this morning at the end of a 1-day visit to the Kingdom during which he conferred with His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister.

AS-SIYASAH: FOREIGN MINISTER MAKES STATEMENT ON IRAN

LD071701 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 5 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[AS-SIYASAH special correspondent; Riyadh interview with Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal--date not given]

[Text] Riyadh--His Highness Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal, Saudi foreign minister, said in reply to a question from AS-SIYASAH that the purpose of Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Qais 'Abd al-Munim Zawawi's visit was to deliver a message from Sultan Qabus to His Majestry King Khalid and that the talks with the Omani minister of state dealt with the changes in the gulf area and the extent of their impact on the countries of the area. Asked whether Saudi Arabia gave a specific view, His Highness Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal said:

We have discussed and deliberated on the subject. It is not our policy to interfere in any country's internal affairs. As for the changes which have taken place or are currently taking place in Iran, they are quite natural if they are a reflection of the demands of the Iranians themselves and we have nothing against them. We only object when there are any changes likely to attract foreign interference which might disturb the balance of power in the area.

Question: Does Your Highness believe that what is happening in Iran is the result of internal demands or of foreign interference?

Answer: The picture we have is no clearer than what is apparent. We hear from Iran that they are warning against any foreign interference. The picture is still incomplete and all the information we have is what is available to all.

Question: Your Highness, does the Iraqi interior minister's visit have any connection with the question of these changes?

Answer: I would have preferred this question to be put to the interior minister or to Saudi Interior Minister His Highness Amir Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. Nevertheless, I can say that the timing of the visit had nothing to do with the changes. It was an extention of previous visits within the framework of coordination between countries of the area. However, I must say that when officials meet they discuss everything concerning their jurisdictions and the problems of their countries.

'UKAZ SCORES COMMUNIST ENCROACHMENT IN IRAN

LD071521 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 3 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] The task of imposing security in Iran and preventing the outbreak of civil war has become the joint responsibility of all the parties to the conflict there, especially since Russia's aims have become quite clear.

Their plans aim to arouse a bloody struggle and incite the Iranian citizens to take up arms so that the country will be plunged into a bloodbath, thus facilitating their exploitation of the current developments and taking power.

The communist circles exposed themselves when Moscow broadcast an open incitement to the citizens which coincided with the communist Tudeh Party's statement stressing the need for armed struggle, rejecting any settlement and even refusing the mere meeting between the opposition Shi'ite leader Ayatollah Khomeyni and Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar, the representative of legality in the country.

Since the army still represents the decisive factor in these developments and is solely capable of tipping the balance in favor of one side or the other, every Iranian citizen is at this fateful juncture reponsible for his country's future, and for enabling it to reach the shore of safety and thus rescuing it from the violent winds blowing from abroad and stirring events in his country.

The communist policy is now concentrating highly on fanning the flames of sedition in Iran. It is trying to realize its plans through inciting class struggle. Such a policy is well-known and was practiced in several countries before. But the serious thing about the situation in Iran now is that communism is trying to ride the crest of Islam. It is trying to get together with the Shi'ite Islamic leaders. It is also trying to use Islam as a new means for the achievement of its objectives. Although we have confidence in the ability of Muslim religious leaders--who realize that there is no compromise between Islam and communism and that this true religion is based on combating these subversive principles whose principal enemy is Islam and its principles of justice, right and equality--we are afraid that the mounting communist tide, which seeks to deceive naive and simple people through its allegations, plotting and organized conspiracies, will be able to ride this crest of the citizens' spontaneous discontent and turn it into a class struggle which it will back with all its means and fuel with arms from communist arsenals. It is in such a tense atmosphere and in such a revolution that communism can play its role and implement its schemes.

The grave situation which Iran is experiencing makes it incumbent on every person loyal to his country to avoid the sea of chaos and destruction that world communism creates and to resort to dialog, reason and wisdom in the achievement of the people's will. This is the ideal way to hold communism in check and confront it in order to prevent it from implementing its plans in Iran and elsewhere.

UAE

MINISTER CALLS FOR ARAB GULF SECURITY FORCES

LD081010 Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0625 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Test] Riyadh--Shaykh Ahmad ibn Hamid, UAE minister of information, called for the unification of the security forces among the gulf states. He said that the gulf region is exposed to the ambitions of the major powers because of its oil resources.

In an interview published today by AL-JAZIRAH, Shaykh Ahmad ibn Hamid added that the UAE supports the convening of a summit conference of the gulf leaders if it's necessary to discuss the region's affairs.

The UAE minister of information hailed the efforts of the Kingdom and its consultations with the states of the region. He said these efforts and consultations by the Kingdom deserve appreciation; they are commendable efforts, whether the contacts and consultations between the states of the region were aimed at the establishment of unity among them or at carrying out consultations on everything that is happening in the region.

SUDANESE CHIEF OF STAFF ARRIVES IN ABU DHABI

JN071351 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1255 GMT 7 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 7 February--Lt Gen 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil, acting commander in chief of the Sudanese people's armed forces and chief of staff, arrived here this morning from Baghdad on a 2-day official visit to the UAE at the invitation of the commander in chief of the UAE Armed Forces.

In an arrival statement, Lt Gen Khalil told the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY correspondent that his visit to the UAE is within the framework of joint cooperation and continuous consultation in harmony with joint Arab action. He said that he will convey greetings from President Numayri and the Sudanese people to the UAE president and the fraternal people here.

YEMEN--PDRY

PRIME MINISTER RECEIVES SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL

ID061622 Tripoli JANA in English 1440 GMT 6 Feb 79 ID

[Text] Aden, February 6, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Vice-Chairman of the Supreme People's Council and Prime Minister of the Yemen People's Democratic Republic Mr 'Ali Nasir Muhammad met with the director of the Near Eastern Countries Department at the Soviet Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Oleg A. Grinevskiy, who is on a current visit to Aden on a leg of his tour of Arab countries.

Aden radio said that both sides reviewed the promotion of bilateral cooperation and other issues related to the situation in the Arab area.

The Soviet official had already visited Jordan, Iraq and Kuwait.

YEMEN--YAR

PRESIDENT RELEASES NUMBER OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

JN071553 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1320 GMT 7 Feb 79 JN

[Text] San'a', 7 February--YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has issued a decree releasing political detainees in the YAR. Responsible sources here said that the decree applies to all persons who were detained before and after the 13 June movement of 1974, which was led by former President Ibrahim al-Hamadi, and those who were detained for suspicion of their stands and behavior and were misled by conspirators during the coup attempt that took place in San'a' on 15 October. These sources also said that the decree was issued on the occasion of the anniversary of the prophet's birth, Friday. The decree is aimed at giving a chance to those who were misled taking part in the development projects and also to consecrate the method of the rule.

AS-SADAT DISCUSSES 'NECESSARY MEDICAL TESTS' WITH SHAH

NC080622 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2257 GMT 7 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 7 February--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat today contact Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi, who is in Morocco, to reassure himself about the health of the shah, the shabanu and the family. During this contact, President as-Sadat told the shah of Iran that Egypt is fully prepared to welcome him whenever he decides to come to undergo the necessary medical tests.

WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT ON RESUMPTION OF PEACE TALKS

NC072140 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 7 Jan 79 NC

[Dispatch by Adib Andrawus, Cairo Radio correspondent in Washington--recorded]

[Text] Within a few days the United States is expected to annouce the date for the resumption of the Middle East discussions, which are expected to be held within 10 days. Informed sources say that the discussions will be resumed in the presence of Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil and Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will participate in the discussions.

U.S. sources have confirmed that the main aim of the next round is to find a solution to the outstanding differences obstructing a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute.

In the meantime, the Washington POST today exposed to American public opinion the torture methods that the Israeli occupation authorities in the West Bank and the other Arab territories are exercising against the Arab inhabitants. Hodding Carter, the U.S. State Department spokesman, has confirmed the POST's report, saying that the United States is discussing these actions with Israeli officials.

GHALI: EGYPT'S STAND NOT INFLUENCED BY BAGHDAD CONFERENCE

NC071656 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 7 Feb 79 NC

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 7 February--Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stated that the Israeli and Arab rejectionists have a common aim: block Egypt's incessant efforts to achieve the goals unanimously agreed upon by the Arab nation. In an interview with the Sudanese newspaper AL-AYYAM, published today, Dr Ghali said that since it began working to achieve these goals Egypt has adopted a clear and steady course and has not been influenced by any outbidding or futile vituperations. This is because Egypt expresses the will of the Arab nation and its hopes and aspirations.

Dr Ghali refuted the allegation that Egypt's stand has been influenced by the Baghdad conference. He said this allegation originated from Israel and the rejectionist states, and clearly shows that they have as a common aim the attempt to distort Egypt's clear and straightforward stand. He affirmed that this attempt will fail as previous attempts have failed, because Egypt knows its responsibilities and acts accordingly under all circumstances, taking the rights and interests of the Arab nation into consideration.

On the U.S. role in the peace talks, Dr Ghali said that in following up the U.S. moves and statements our moves are characterized by dynamism and by effective and continuous attempts to maintain the peace momentum generated by President Anwar as-Sadat's historic initiative.

Dr Ghali explained that the main obstacle blocking these efforts and the peace process is Israel, which is still adhering to archaic concepts that do not conform with the true meaning of the peace initiative and are inconsistent with the hopes and aspirations of the region's peoples, who look for the establishment of a comprehensive, permanent and just peace.

On Egypt's stand on the Palestinian issue, Dr Ghali said that we neither want nor intend to hold negotiations on behalf of the Palestinians to determine their final status. All we are doing now is helping them establish their elected national authority on their land, which will enable them at a later stage to hold negotiations with Israel on equal footing. He said that Egypt will always work with the representatives of the Palestinian people who will negotiate with Israel. He noted in this respect that all Arab people, including the Palestinians, support a peaceful settlement with Israel and resent war, from which the peoples of the region have greatly suffered.

Dr Ghali also affirmed that the Israeli forces that really want peace can pressure the Israeli rejectionist forces to abandon their stands, which are blocking the peace efforts.

Concerning the adoption of an Egyptian-Sudanese strategy to confront the foreign interference in Africa, Dr Butrus Ghali said: There is full coordination and understanding between both countries on the question of foreign interference in Africa and the need to resist it and explain the extent of its dangers and negative effects on the destinies of the peoples of the continent.

Ghali pointed out that the real danger of the foreign interference is that its aim is to undermine the great accomplishments of the African people and permit foreign forces to spread division and disputes among the states and peoples of the continent. This, he added, would expose the safety and security of all African peoples to more disputes and disturbances.

Dr Ghali explained that it would be easy to confront this interference if each African state assumes its full responsibilities to safeguard its independence and free will. He said that Sudan and Egypt will always be prepared to support any fraternal African state that might be exposed to foreign interference, which runs counter to the interests of the continent.

Dealing with the current conflict in the Horn of Africa and the forthcoming meeting between President Numayri and Chairman of the ruling Military Council in Ethiopia Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, Dr Ghali said that Egypt believes that the civilized way of tackling problems and differences is to hold a dialog and seek peaceful solutions within an African framework. He added that Egypt welcomes President Numayri's efforts to find an honorable and peaceful solution that would end the current conflict in the explosive area of the Horn of Africa in a manner that would safeguard the independence and safety of the African states in this sensitive area and keep them away from conflicts among the great states.

He expressed his hope that the forthcoming meeting between Numayri and Mengistu will produce positive results serving the interests of the peoples and states of the Horn of Africa and will consequently insure the safety and security of the entire continent.

AL-AKHBAR BACKS KHALIL'S REBUFF TO MOSHE DAYAN

LD080955 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 2 Feb 79 p 4 LD

[Editorial: "This Is the Basis of Peace"]

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil yesterday asserted before the People's Assembly that Egypt will not sign a separate peace with Israel and refuses to treat it differently from any other state. He said that Egypt is prepared to continue with the peace negotiations within the framework of a comprehensive peace and the Camp David accords on the basis of the need to link the peace agreement to the establishment of self-rule in the West Bank and Gaza.

With these brief, concise words, the prime minister has outlined Egypt's position on the peace negotiations and on the results that such negotiations may lead to. This was a pledge that the prime minister made before the People's Assembly and a political commitment that he declared on behalf of the government, a commitment that we can never possibly forsake or compromise, and which we had often declared before the entire world. But the reassertion of this position before the People's Assembly in particular is strong evidence that refutes the allegations being reiterated by Dayan and other people in Israel, refutes the rumors being spread by the agents of rejection and the trumpets of Soviet propaganda on Egypt's stand, and refutes the lies and falsifications they have been disseminating in the past few days.

Among the distortions and misrepresentation that Dayan made in Paris recently was that Egypt has changed its attitude and is reluctant to sign a separate agreement with Israel because of recent developments in Iran. It is neither strange nor surprising that Moshe Dayan should say such a thing, for it is his nature to persist in distortions and misrepresentations. In fact, all the Israeli officials these days are seized by such a fit.

As we have already said, when the negotiations reach their final stages the Israelis like to insist on bargaining, thus diverting the negotiations into channels far from peace and the clear path to it. This is the reason the negotiations reached a stalemate, which might last a long time because those in Israel do not easily see reason. These are the facts of the situation, but, wanting to put the blame on Egypt, Dayan alleged that Egypt has become reluctant to sign a separate agreement because of the situation in Iran. Can Dayan or anybody else say when Egypt agreed to sign a separate peace agreement? The entire world knows very well that Egypt has never changed its position and will not deviate from it, which Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil declared before the People's Assembly yesterday.

How do the recent developments in Iran affect the situation, and what impact do they have on the Egyptian attitude, as Dayan alleges? The entire world knows that Egypt has sought peace from a position of strength and with such a strength alone we insist on a comprehensive and just peace and refuse to give Israel any privileges that distinguish it from any other state.

In fact, Moshe Dayan has been unable to affect the situation with his misrepresentations and lies or unable to deceive the world about the facts of this situation. All he did was to reveal the truth about Israel and about the illusions, doubts and fear of reality in which the Israelis live. But what Dayan and his brothers in Israel must realize is that all this will not change reality and will be of no avail for them. There will be peace only on the basis that Egypt declared and which it reaffirms and insists on.

COMMENTARY ON SHARON PROPOSALS TO WITHDRAW FROM AL-'ARISH

NC072010 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Feb 79 NC

[Ibrahim Wahbi Commentary: "The Talks and International Legality"]

[Excerpts] It seems that Israel is not seeking to advance the peace talks but instead is trying to freeze them without appearing to be responsible for the consequences of such an act. Meanwhile, Egypt will not give Israel the chance to do this and will continue to provide opportunities for peace until the entire world realizes that it is Israel which is taking a position incompatible with the requirements of peace and world opinion.

It is observed that so far Israel has given no indication that it wants a just settlement, but the contrary may be true. Every time a decision is made to resume the talks, Israel raises new points on which it alleges there is disagreement. Israel is trying to raise the question of its oil supplies, using the excuse that it is afraid of the situation in Iran, which used to supply it with oil. It has also raised again the question of financial compensations from the United States.

U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown has said that there are serious differences between Washington and Tel Aviv over Israel's request for compensation in return for dismantling its military airfields and settlements in Sinai. U.S. experts estimate that $1 billion is enough for building the two airfields that will replace the Israeli airfields in Sinai, while Israel wants $3 billion.

We believe that Israel has been good at raising demands and obstacles at a time when it has not shown any progress toward meeting Egypt's two basic demands on which the success or failure of the talks depend. Egypt wants to uphold its commitments to the Arab world regardless of the proposed Egyptian-Israeli agreement. It also wants to link the situation in Sinai with that the West Bank and the Gaza Strip through a timetable for establishing a Palestinian entity and self-rule, for holding of elections and for the withdrawal of Israeli forces.

Any progress in achieving any of these steps is a contribution toward removing the obstacles blocking the resumption of the talks. As for the superficial proposals aired by Israel, such as the proposal of Israeli Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon that Israel withdraw from Al-'Arish as a goodwill gesture to accelerate the resumption of the talks, these are merely for propaganda purposes.

Observers believe that Israel must submit serious proposals that must take into consideration the Palestinian issue, if it wants to live in peace with the Arab states. Observers also believe that the talks must conclude with recognition of the Palestinians' legitimate rights because this is the correct basis for just peace.

COMMITTEE SET UP TO MAKE PEACE BETWEEN COPTS, MUSLIMS

LD071045 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 1 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[Excerpts] Cairo--It has been learned here that a high-level committee consisting of several ministers has been set up to make peace between Muslims and Copts in Asyut.

The committee, which includes Minister of the Interior Muhammad an-Nabawi Isma'il and several ministers having contacts with both Muslims and Christians in Asyut Province, will begin its work by holding a meeting with the bishop of Asyut and the provincial governor, Muhammad 'Uthman Isma'il, with the aim of ironing out differences between both sides.

The strain between communities dates back to last year. A major quarrel developed into clashes between both communities, and at that time the Christians accused the then governor of failing to deal with the situation.

The reconciliation committee will begin its work following the return of the Coptic patriarch, Shinudah, from his visit to London, on which he is accompanied by the bishop of Asyut.

EGYPT TO BOLSTER ISLAMIC CALL AGAINST IMPORTED IDEOLOGIES

LD070911 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 5 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[Text] During his meeting with Dr 'Abd al-Mun'im an-Nimr, the new Awqaf minister, following the minister's constitutional oath ceremony the day before yesterday, President Anwar as-Sadat asked that a comprehensive plan be made to strengthen the mission of mosques, meet the shortage of preachers and ulemas and bolster the Islamic call in Egypt so as to be able to face up to imported ideologies and to inculcate into the spirit of our youth the Islamic values and principles.

The president told the minister at the meeting, which was attended by Vice President Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, that the state will provide all the means to achieve this objective.

Dr an-Nimr stated that, in accordance with these directives, the Ministry of Awqaf will immediately begin devising joint plan to bolster the Islamic call in Egypt and strengthen the mosque's mission in society.

AMBASSADOR TO ZAIRE DISCUSSES BILATERAL RELATIONS

JN071559 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1540 GMT 7 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Cairo, 7 February--Egyptian Ambassador to Zaire Fu'ad al-Budaywi has declared that the Zaire Government, people and head of state appreciate President Anwar as-Sadat's historic initiative and support all the efforts being made by Egypt to establish a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

In a statement to MENA, Al-Budaywi said that Zairian President Mobutu Sesse Seko has asserted this in all his meetings with foreign ambassadors in Zaire as well as in all his statements. He also lauded the fraternal relations between Egypt and Zaire and the cooperation existing between them in all fields.

The ambassador said that Zairian Prime Minister Kasenda Mpinga will visit Egypt next April at the invitation of the Egyptian Government. The Egyptian ambassador to Zaire arrived in Cairo the day before yesterday for consultations on ways to bolster and consolidate bilateral relations.

OFFICIAL VISIT OF YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT TITO ENDS

Al-Bakr Awards Tito Medal

JN071303 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1220 GMT 7 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 7 Feb--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr has awarded Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito the military Ar-Rafidayn Medal First Class, as an expression of the friendship between Iraq and Yugoslavia.

Upon awarding President Tito the medal, President al-Bakr said: We are pleased to present to Your Excellency the Ar-Rafidayn Medal, First Class, as an expression of the friendship between our peoples and countries.

President Tito expressed his thanks and appreciation to President al-Bakr and the Iraqi people for the hospitality accorded him and his delegation.

Final Talks

LD071519 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croation 1345 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad--The concluding Yugoslav-Iraqi talks, which both sides assessed as being very successful and useful, were held in Baghdad today. Presidents Tito and Al-Bakr summarized the course of talks to date and noted that they had been very open, comprehensive and that considerable unanimity on all essential questions have emerged from them--both as regards relations and cooperation on the bilateral plane and the expansion of these relations in all spheres. In so doing, they stressed in particular that political and economic relations between the two countries are very developed and coordinated.

The two presidents also noted that it has been very useful for meetings to take place between their associates--Foreign Affairs Ministers Josip Vrhovec and Dr Sa'dun Hammadi; between Branko Mikulic, chairman of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee, and Dr Munif ar-Rassac, assistant secretary general of the national command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; and between Andrej Marinc, vice president of the Federal Executive Council and chairman of the Yugoslav side in the mixed committee for economic and scientific-technical cooperation, and 'Adnan Husayn, Iraqi minister of planning.

In the talks, which lasted 2 hours and which took place in a very friendly atmosphere, Presidents Tito and Al-Bakr stressed the need for relations between the LCY and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party to be intensified and to continue this open and comprehensive dialog, and also that relations between the foreign affairs ministries of the two countries be promoted in the area of bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

The two presidents noted that the view of the two countries were identical in their assessment of the international situation, in the desire and efforts to contribute to the solution of the Middle East crisis, especially in the assessment of the situation in the nonalined movement, in their interest in overcoming and eliminating the division tendencies in the movement and in strengthening their action unity on the reaffirmation of the well-known principle, which made this movement very much present and very important in international politics, and which made the movement independent, authentic and irreplaceable.

In addition to providing this summary of the talks held so far which the two presidents assessed as exceptionally useful and successful, they today paid special attention to reciprocal information on the overall development of Iraq and Yugoslavia.

President al-Bakr informed his distinguished guest of the present development in Iraq and of the latest history and revolution [as received]. The Iraqi president spoke in particular of the directions of the socialist development of Iraq on the basis of independence coupled with cooperation with all countries, particularly with progressive factors in the world, always defending, however, and remaining on its own course of development and denying anyone the right to interfere in it.

President Tito briefed his host on the development of the Yugoslav revolution, provided an account of the prewar situation in Yugoslavia, and of the development of the national liberation struggle and of the decisions taken at that time which had a far-reaching effect on the formation of the Yugoslav community on a socialist and independent basis, coupled with self-management and the present stage of Yugoslav development.

Taking part in that conversation on the Yugoslav side were Branko Mikulic, chairman of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee; Dobrivoje Vidic, president of the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia; Josip Vrhovec, federal secretary of foreign affairs; Andrej Marinc, vice president of the Federal Executive Council; Berislav Badurina, chief de cabinet to the president of the republic; SFRY ambassador to Iraq, Zivko Mucalov; and Budimir Loncar, under secretary in the Federal Secretariat of Foreign Affairs. Taking part in the final talks on the Iraqi side were Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council of Iraq; 'Adnan Husayn, minister of planning; and Iraqi Ambassador to Yugoslavia 'Abd al-Husayn Hamzawi al-Hamash.

Tito Departs

JN080918 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 6 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Feb--Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito left Baghdad for Damascus this morning at the end of a 5-day visit to Iraq.

The Yugoslav president was accorded an official send off at Baghdad International Airport. President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr led the officials who saw the Yugoslav president off. In a press statement, President Tito said that his talks with Iraqi officials were successful in terms of developing bilateral relations.

President Tito added that the two countries' viewpoints are identical on several issues connected to the Middle East, the nonalined movement and other areas of mutual interest.

President Tito expressed his thanks to the Iraqi people and government for their warm welcome and wished the Iraqi people continued progress and prosperity.

A joint statement on President Tito's visit will be issued this evening.

TANJUG REPORTS MIKULIC TALKS WITH BA'TH PARTY OFFICIAL

LD062359 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1900 GMT 6 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad, Feb 6 (TANJUG)--Presiding member of the Central Committee Presidency of the Yugoslav League of Communists Branko Mikulic today had talks with national leadership Deputy General Secretary of the [Arab] Socialist Ba'th Party Dr Munif ar-Razzaz. These talks represent a continuation of contacts between the Yugoslav League of Communists and the Ba'th Party which have been existing for the last thirty years.

Mikulic and Ar-Razzaz set down the program of cooperation between the two parties for the next two year period.

The agreement reached today will intensify relations and cooperation between the two parties through exchange visits of political delegations, the organization of symposiums, study group visits, "round-table" conferences and other forms of cooperation between the two parties. Exchanges of publications are also envisaged in the program of cooperation.

The Mikulic-Ar-Razzaz talks encompassed a wide range of topical political questions. The two sides set out that relations between the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and the Ba'th party are founded on full equality and the principles of each party's responsibility to its country and people and its autonomy in international ties. This common point, it was assessed, is important for the further development of relations between the two parties.

Both parties, it was set out during the Mikulic-Ar-Razzaz talks, are struggling for the implementation of the policy of non-alignment as a whole. Neither of the two parties is for any single principle of the non-aligned movement to be singled out and others neglected. The League of Communists of Yugoslavia and the Ba'th Party consider that a division of the non-aligned movement into progressive and less progressive would threaten with the danger of splitting the movement's unity, that is, would open the door for in-this-way classified parts of the movement to turn into appendages of the military-political blocs.

Agreement or identity of views were in essence characteristic of this detailed exchange of opinions, although some specific views were also noted, i.e. differing approaches to some questions under discussion.

Among other things, the two parties' high representatives agreed that it is necessary to struggle not only against imperialism, colonialism, Zionism or reaction but also against all forms of alien domination, hegemonism and alien interference in the affairs of others.

An exchange of opinions on the current state of relations among the socialist and communist parties as well as on the international worker movement as a whole was also made.

AL-BAKR ADDRESSES MESSAGE TO WORLD PEACE COUNCIL MEETING

JN061718 Baghdad INA in English 1640 GMT 6 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Berlin, Feb 6, INA--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr described granting the Nobel Prize for Peace to war criminal Menahem Begin and Anwar as-Sadat as a play [as received] and said this operation stressed the aggressive nature of international imperialism and its disregard of peoples' right in liberty, independence and progress.

This was contained in a message addressed to the international peace conference now in session here and read by Mr Na'im Haddad, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party regional leadership and Presidium committee of the Iraqi National Council for Peace and Solidarity.

President al-Bakr message stressed that people struggle would decide the decisive end of the Zionist entity in Palestine, the white minority rule in Zimbabwe and South Africa and the fascist regime in Chile.

The message said the social and civilizational progress would not be integral without eradication of colonialism which the developing countries are suffering from.

President al-Bakr's message said the Arab region is exposed to vicious Zionist and imperialist attack aiming at consecrating Zionist colonialism on Arab Palestine and liquidating the national liberation movement in the region.

The message said that links of conspiratorial scheme against the Arab people reached peak with conclusion of the Camp David accords and previous attempts to liquidate progressive and national forces in Lebanon and open its southern borders before the aggressors. All these attempts were after granting legality and legitimacy to a racial entity that only knows the language of aggression and occupation.

Referring to the Iraqi-Syrian Joint Charter National Action, President al-Bakr said it was a strategic base for encountering the Zionist imperialist scheme and a revolutionary impetus that placed the Arab nation before her historic responsibilities and was a decisive reply to all attempts at squandering the Arab people's potentials.

President al-Bakr's message stressed thatthe Arab people stands in defence of his right and for liberating land and aborting all attempts of racial discrimination, persecution and physical liquidation exercised by the fascist, racial Zionist entity.

The message also referred to importance of solidarity, banning arms race and all types of mass destruction weapons in the world. It said that imperialism employs all its potentials for producing and massing destruction weapons.

Speaking at the meeting, Mr. Romesh Chandra, secretary general of the World Peace Council, stressed that the message stresses President al-Bakr's role in building world peace based on justice and humanity.

LABOR, INDUSTRY MINISTERS HOLD TALKS WITH INDIAN MINISTER

JN071515 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT 7 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Feb--Bakr Muhammad Rasul, minister of labor and social affairs, met here today with Ravindra Varma, Indian minister of labor and minister of parliamentary affairs, and the delegation accompanying him.

During the meeting, the Iraqi labor minister asserted Iraq's desire to develop the cooperation relations between Iraq and India in all fields that serve the interests of the two friendly peoples. A discussion was also held on ways of developing the cooperation relations between the two friendly countries in labor and social affairs.

Muhammad 'Ayish, Revolution Command Council member and minister of industry and minerals, also met with the Indian minister and reviewed with him the cooperation relations between the two countries and ways of bolstering them in the interest of their two peoples. They also discussed a number of topics related to industrial projects and their technical cadres as well as the possibility of India's contribution to a number of industrial projects, training Iraqi workers' cadres at specialized Indian institutions and the exchange of expertise between the two friendly countries.

AMMAN PAPER PREDICTS ISRAEL WILL WAGE AGGRESSION

JN061111 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 6 Feb 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on the changes which took place in the Arab and international arenas--the events in Iran, the Iraqi-Syrian unionist steps, and the Israeli position on these changes--AR-RA'Y says in its editorial today that these changes have upset the balance of powers on which Israel was relying. Therefore, Israel will not let these changes go unchalleged. It will seek to reverse events by exploiting the Lebanese breach in the Arab wall to the maximum and in a calculated manner. If Israel does launch wide-scale aggression against southern Lebanon, it will be designed to clear southern Lebanon of its inhabitants, to then occupy it, and to obtain a new strategic position from which it could test the extent of the Syrian-Iraqi cohesion by waging a war of attrition in southern Lebanon and the Golan Heights.

AMMAN DAILY URGES ARABS TO BACK JORDANIAN-SYRIAN STAND

JN071020 Amman AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 7 Feb 79 pp 1, 13 JN

[Editorial: "Syria and Jordan and the Common Historical Fate"]

[Text] In keeping with the consultations and exchange of views between fraternal Syria and Jordan on issues that concern the Arab homeland, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Amman yesterday with a message for His Majesty King Husayn from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

The message, which deals with the latest developments in the Arab situation, is a party of the policy of coordination and consultation between the two countries. Husayn and Al-Asad established this policy as the best way to unify the position on common pan-Arab responsibilities and to integrate the two countries' efforts on the national and pan-Arab levels alike.

Fraternal Syria and Jordan are pursuing the policy of integration and coordination because they believe the people in the two countries, their aspirations and fate as one people, and the historical responsibility these people are shouldering due to their geographical location--a location constituting the first and last line of defense of the interests of Arabism and pan-Arab fate--must be united.

When we say that Jordan and Syria constitute the first and last line of defense of the Arab nation and its future generations, we mean that they, before others, must shoulder the responsibility of steadfastness toward the Zionist expansion. Secondly, they must work together to liberate the occupied territories.

This is their direct responsibility, their historical fate. The circumstances that have developed in the Arab arena and the changes that have occurred in the balance of the Arab-Zionist confrontation have further intensified this responsibility and have prompted Husayn and Al-Asad to establish the bases of integration and coordination and to consolidate their capabilities to halt the designs of expansion and aggression.

We must say that the pan-Arab stand of Syria and Jordan is worthy to serve as an axis to polarize the Arab nation's efforts and energies, because they are responsible for the presence and fate of all the Arabs.

AR-RA'Y CRITICIZES ARAB REACTION TO CAMP DAVID

JN080950 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Feb 79 pp 1,11 JN

[Editorial: "The Impotence of Logic and Arms"]

[Text] At last, the U.S. administration has decided to resume the bilateral negotiations in 2 weeks' time. Vance has also stated that all pending issues should be settled together during the negotiations.

Despite the fact that the U.S. press has warned against overoptimism, on the assumption that the fate of the "resumed" negotiations will be no better than of those previous, the U.S. invitation and the rapid Egyptian and Israeli response to it clearly indicate a probability that the agreement will be signed in spring as predicted by Kissinger and Rabin earlier this week.

The simultaneous settlement of all pending issues clearly suggests that the U.S. administration intends to insist on proceeding as far as possible with the Camp David course, even if it has to face a thousand more Khomeynis in the area.

The United States' decision to cling to the Camp David agreements despite total Arab opposition obviously means that the United States will continue its line, hostile to the Arabs and to their fateful cause, disregarding its great interests in the area, as if there were an Arab guarantee by which its interests would not be harmed despite the extent of the damage the negotiations may do to the Arabs and their common cause.

The Arabs' tragedy is that they have been unable to elaborate a logic that could be understood by the West, despite the various Arab summit conferences, the Arabs' unified positions and their solidarity. This logic should be based on a unified Arab strength capable of checking the Zionist aggression.

The Arabs' impotence or their temporary failure is characterized by the Arab information media's failure to expose and reveal the inhuman methods practiced by the Zionist authorities against Arab detainees over the past 11 years.

Was it necessary that the Zionist occupation authorities' torture of Arab detainees be raised by the Washington POST and in reports from the U.S. Consulate in occupied Jerusalem before the world could realize that Israel is practicing such terrorist methods in its treatment of Arab detainees?

Those who claim that the Arabs are the worst lawyers ever entrusted with a most just cause are not in error. How else can we explain the total Arab neglect of the greatest Zionist terrorist aggression currently being waged against the Palestinian people both within and outside of the occupied territories, or the lack of an Arab call for an awakening of the world's conscience, which responds so quickly when even one Jew is arrested in the Soviet Union?

The Camp David conspiracy is moving toward implementation and the Arabs' failure to promote world reaction to the Zionist barbarism is quite in line with their failure to confront this aggression.

INA REPORTS GUNFIRE AT LEBANESE PRIME MINISTRY

JN081135 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 8 February--Lebanese Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and a large number of Prime Ministry employees were required to remain in their offices at noon today after they were encircled by sniper fire directed at the Prime Ministry, located near the commercial sector in Beirut.

Two Prime Ministry cars and several motorcycles belonging to the prime minister's escort were hit by machinegun fire from rightwing positions in the martyr's square when they attempted to leave the Prime Ministry.

INA: MILITIAS ABDUCT 15 CITIZENS IN JUBAYL

JN071841 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 7 Feb 79 JN

[Excerpt] Beirut, 7 February--The rightwing militias have abducted 15 citizens in the coastal city of Jubyal, 35 kilometers north of Beirut. The abducted, most of whom are from Tripoli, were transported to the nearby mountainous region under armed guards from the Phalangist Party.

Rightwing sources said that this incident comes in reply to the disappearance of two rightist elements claimed by the militias to have been abducted and taken to Tripoli.

This is the second abduction operation committed by the militias in the northern region in the last 10 days. Earlier, 17 persons were abducted in the same region, but the Lebanese authorities negotiated with the militias for their release.

[Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic at 2000 GMT on 7 February says that "contacts are now underway on various levels to release persons who were kidnaped today between the areas of Al-Batrun and Tripoli. Security reports say that the efforts to contain the consequences of the kidnaping incident are eliciting interest from various political circles."]

VOL on Kidnapings

NC080717 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 8 Feb 79 NC

[Text] Intermittent shooting continued in the Chevrolet area during the night. There were explosions and bursts of DSHK fire in the Badary-al-Kfuri area and in Ra's ad-Dikwanah. Intermittent sniper fire is continuing in the heart of the capital. There was little traffic on the Fu'as Shihab bridge this morning despite the security measures taken by the internal security patrols.

In the north, contacts are continuing to settle the question of the kidnaped persons, whose number rose to over 10 yesterday. The kidnaping took place on the Beirut-Tripoli road as a protest against the abduction of two northerners who have not yet been released by their political kidnapers in the north despite promises and the previous release of 17 abducted persons. The Northern Evacuees Committee had earlier issued a statement saying that it had been forced to detain a number of citizens because the endeavors and promises made to secure the release of Ilyas Bustani and Nicola Haydar had not produced any positive results. It said: We fear that these two have been killed because 20 days have elapsed since they were kidnaped.

ALGERIA

ALGIERS PAPER ENUMERATES FLN CONGRESS SUCCESSES

LD080953 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 1 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[Article by E.M.: "To Concretize the National Charter"]

[Text] The Fourth National Liberation Front [FLN] Congress, which ended yesterday, fully deserves to be called historic--it has undoubtedly permitted the socialist revolution in Algiers to take a decisive step. Responding to the expectations and ardent desires of the people's masses and the militant rank and file represented by 3,290 delegates, the FLN national conference both crowned our country's national edifice and provided a point of departure for a new and powerful impulse in support of the building of socialism--the sole guarantor of our people's independence and of justice and progress. In fact, the fourth party congress achieved a number of successes. The first of these successes was certainly the election by the congress of a strong revolutionary directorate consisting of well-tried militants headed by Moudjhaid Chadli Bendjedid, secretary general of the party and FLN candidate for the presidency.

Faithful to the memory of the late President Houari Boumediene, this new political directorate has now been entrusted with the task of leading the FLN and all our people toward a socialist future which they desire along a path clearly determined by the national charter. FLN secretary general and candidate for the presidency Chadli Bendjedid was solemnly sworn in at yesterday's session of the congress. As the national congress explains, in order to follow this path it is necessary to strengthen the FLN, "the people's leading and organizational force striving to achieve the objectives of the revolution." The fourth congress has provided a valuable contribution to that consolidation by adopting party statutes and organic rules which elevate the FLN structures to the level of the demands and nature of the tasks which it has to accomplish. Furthermore, by adopting some appropriate and extremely valuable resolutions, the congress has formulated a real political actior rogram for the party--a program relevant to all sectors of the country's life, and it has determined concrete steps for the implementation of the national charter's provisions in the political, economic, cultural and social spheres.

Armed with this program the FLN directorate and militants will move forward in pursuit of new successes, showing increased enthusiasm in their struggle against imperialism, reaction and all the enemies of the socialist revolution. Thus, the Fourth FLN Congress has truly implemented the slogan which it adopted for its deliberations--"fidelity to the memory of President Boumediene and implementation of the national charter." All our people, who have closely followed the discussions which took place in the 19 June auditorium, have greeted the results of this congress with great satisfaction and believe more firmly than ever in the revolution's final victory.

LIBYA

CONGRESS SECRETARY ADDRESSES IRANIAN SOLIDARITY RALLY

LD071638 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1444 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Text] [Passage indistinct] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi and banners expressing their full support for the revolution, their determination to implement the Green Book in its two parts and their support for the Iranian people's revolution against the lackey shah's regime.

The masses shouted "Al-Fatah Is a Popular Revolution", "Al-Fatah Is an Islamic Revolution", "Partners, Not Wage Workers","We Say No to Capitalism," Khomeyni, Go Ahead", "This Is the Era of the Masses," "You, People of Egypt, Volatile as a Volcano, Must Follow Iran's Suit."

At the end of the rally, the secretary of the People's Congress of Tripoli municipality made the following statement:

This good and bountiful land of the great Al-Fatah has witnessed the greatest epic of popular liberation and battle against invaders. This Arab land has given a live example of struggle to be followed by others. It has given birth to the first Jamahiriyah (the state of the masses) in history, marking the beginning of a new era and a new civilization and heralding the final liberation of mankind from all forms of slavery and oppression imposed by autocratic regimes.

This era will bring power to the people who then can become their own master and leader with power, wealth and arms in their hands. This revolutionary arsenal has confronted the imperialist-backed offensive against the Arab nation. The people of this land are committed to support freedom all over the world since it is one and the same everywhere.

The Jamahiriyah masses are gathered here today to announce their support of the Iranian people's heroic upheaval which overcame the shah's dictatorship through faith and will power.

This uprising proved to world nations that once the masses have begun their holy march, no force could stop them, not even the shah's lethal weapons, used to crush the Iranian people's aspirations to achieve people's power and to implement the Islamic Sharia, which calls for human equality and justice.

Masses of the Great 1 September Revolution, when the masses go out today on their tumultous rally to announce their solidarity and support for the Muslim Iranian people and their great uprising, they will be paying tribute at the same time to the courageous stand of Ayatollah Khomeyni. He, who is the symbol of the Iranian people's uprising, lived his years of banishment far away from his people and country under orders from the agent shah because he had raised his voice against oppression and autocratic rule. He has called for justice and the implementation of the Muslim law Sharia where the Islamic religion would provide the code of conduct and the legislation in a Muslim Iranian republic. The masses in this tremendous people's rally express their support for the Muslim Iranian people's uprising and for the steps taken by their leader to achieve the rule of the masses. Ayatollah Khomeyni represents a symbol of this struggle. The rally, coming from this land which has proclaimed to the world the revival of a new civilization where no power exists except for the people, is actually heralding to the free men of the world the truth of our dicta.

What is being practiced on the land of the socialist people's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah is true democracy with all its implications. The wealth of the country is in the hands of the people who are striving to become world partners, not wage workers. Arms are in the hands of the people. What is taking place on our land is presented by the masses at their basic people's congresses and people's committees, for democracy is the people's rule and not the people's representation. It is supervision by the people for themselves. The features of government and rule have disappeared forever, as well as parliamentary councils which used to fake democracy. The society of masters and slaves has disappeared as well as wage-slavery and the slavery of man by his fellow man. What has replaced all this is something different from democracy, a new socialist society where power, wealth and arms are in the hands of the people, and the house belongs to its occupier, a society where its people serve it.

This is the new society, the society of partners, not wage workers. This is the society preached for by the Third World theory, which has presented the model solution for the problems of man everywhere and which has refuted the theories of the East and West.

This is the era of the masses which rises from this desert, the name of which has been associated with aridity and barrenness. But our desert is the desert of the great east that has witnessed the descent of revelation and the cradle of the divine eternal messages. This is how the new comes from Libya. From here the shout for justice is sounded echoing in the world. So, let the revolution of the Iranian masses continue towards achieving its goals. Victory is always on the side of the people. God is great and Al-Fateh will last forever and committees will spread everywhere.

JALLUD SPEAKS AT 6 FEB DINNER FOR CSSR'S STROUGAL

LD071622 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpts] Tripoli--Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud held a dinner banquet last night in honor of Lubomir Strougal, prime minister of the CSSR, and the accompanying delegation. The banquet was attended by some brother secretaries and heads of the diplomatic missions accredited to the Jamahiriyah.

Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud delivered a speech at the beginning, welcoming Mr Strougal and the accompanying delegation on his second visit to Libya. He pointed out that although Libyan Arab-Czechoslovak relations began after the rise of the Great 1 September Revolution, Arab-Czechoslovak relations began in the sixties.

He pointed out that the Libyan Arab people take a deep interest in friendship with the Czechoslovak people and the socialist countries and feel the need to develop these relations. He said that the development of these relations and the realization of effective cooperation are the joint responsibility of both sides.

He said that Libya fully believes in peace because our Islamic faith and our new theory call for peace, affection and happiness. We believe in harmony, as we believe in disarmament because we do not want to pay one dinar to purchase weapons because we need to spend it in the sphere of achieving progress and prosperity.

He went on to say: However, in the present circumstances and conditions which the Arab nation is experiencing, the Arab people in general believe that the rifle is more important than a loaf of bread--not for the love of the rifle but to defend the loaf of bread, life and existence.

Staff Major Jallud affirmed the Jamahiriyah's support for all liberation movements in the world because the freedom of the Jamahiriyah is part of the freedom of the struggling people. He pointed out that the Arab revolution forces stand entrenched with the socialist countries against exploitation, colonialism, and reactionary and Zionist monopolies. He said that the states following the path of development have no choice but to struggle to realize genuine economic and cultural independence, instead of a sham of political independence, with the aid of the revolutionary forces in the world and the socialist countries and by controlling their economic resources. Staff Major Jallud stressed that the peoples of the Third World cannot develop their independence in the shadow of an unjust world economic and monetary system, which is the natural byproduct of the colonial stage and which confirms the exploitation of the poor by the rich.

He called on the socialist countries not to stand by while attempts are being made to find a new world economic system, because their presence would strengthen the stance of the developing countries. He pointed to the need to hold a dialog between the socialist and capitalist countries in order to develop the economy of the poor states and to enable them to control their own natural resources.

Joint Communique

ID072224 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Feb 79 ID

[Text] Tripoli--A joint communique has been issued in Tripoli and Prague following the visit of Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal to the Jamahiriyah from 5 to 7 February. Here is the text:

At the official invitation of staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the premier of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Lubomir Strougal, paid an official and friendly visit to Libya from 5 to 7 February 1979.

The leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, received the Czechoslovak republic, and exchanged with him views on the strengthening of bilateral relations and on the current international situation.

Talks were held between staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress, and Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding. The two sides exchanged information regarding the development of their respective countries. The premier of Czechoslovakia witnessed the achievements of the Great 1 September Revolution in the fields of economic and social development and in the sphere of the people's authority. The premier of Czechoslovakia praised these achievements.

The two sides exchanged views on the development of bilateral relations and in this connection praised the historic visit of brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, to Czechoslovakia--the visit which laid down the deep and wide foundation for the strengthening and increasing cooperation between the two countries in the political, economic, scientific and cultural fields. They expressed their satisfaction with the positive progress made in these fields. They noted with satisfaction that relations are proceeding according to the plan which was formulated during that visit.

The two sides exchanged views on the current international situation and noted that their views were identical with regard to the issues they discussed.

The two sides discussed the dangerous situation in the Middle East and strongly condemned in this connection the Camp David agreements which are regarded as being an extension of the colonialist-Zionist conspiracy against the Arab nation and the question of Palestine. The two sides condemned all subsequent results of the Camp David agreements.

The two sides condemned also the repeated Israeli acts of aggression on southern Lebanon, and the Israeli shelling of the villages and the Palestinian refugee camps with the aim of liquidating the Palestinian resistance movement and its heroic struggle and of occupying more Arab land.

They reaffirmed their countries' solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the legitimate and sole representative of that people.

The Czechoslovak side highly appreciated the efforts being made by the Resistance and Steadfastness Front to frustrate the attempts of colonialism, reaction and Zionism to bring about the unilateral capitulationist solutions, and lauded the role being played by Libya in this connection.

The Czechoslovak side highly appreciated the results of the Ninth Arab Summit Conference which was held in Baghdad and its subsequent results in reviving Arab solidarity against the Camp David capitulationist agreements which constitute a serious threat to the Arab peoples' vital interests.

The two sides emphasized the importance of cooperation and friendship between the Arab people and the peoples of the socialist community. They expressed the usefulness of deepening this cooperation and friendship to achieve joint aims in the service of the just Arab cause, progress and peace.

The two sides declared that a just and lasting peace in the Arab area cannot be achieved except by the liberation of all the occupied territories and the guaranteeing of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return to their homeland and determine their own destiny and set up their own independent state.

The two sides discussed the situation in the African Continent. They affirmed their support for the liberation movements throughout the continent, particularly in Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. The two sides emphasized that the only solution to these issues is to grant full independence by means of recognizing the Patriotic Front and SWAPO--the two sole legitimate representatives of their peoples. They condemned the colonialist and reactionary attempts aimed at interfering in the affairs of the continent and at hindering and isolating the progressive forces and the national revolutions there.

The two sides also asserted the right of the Saharan people to self-determination in accordance with the UN resolutions.

The two sides stressed the need for noninterference by imperialism in the African Continent and for letting the Africans solve their own problems by themselves in accordance with the UN Charter and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Charter.

The two sides concemned the attempts by imperialism which wishes to impose its domination anew over the African Continent and asserted their determination to assist and support the African people who are struggling for the liquidation of the foreign imperialist bases from the continent and for their freedom and independence.

The two sides noted that the nations' struggle against aggression and the policy of repression, for peace and accord, for halting the arms race, for the development of (?international) cooperation based on mutual respect, and for national independence and sovereignty and noninterference in internal affairs is gaining strength in the present international situation.

The two sides are jointly convinced that the continuation of the arms race is one of the main dangers threatening world peace and international security, and that the urgent task for guaranteeing world peace lies in the ending of the arms race and in transforming the latter into a total and comprehensive disarmament. They consider the efforts being made in this connection for the convening of an international conference on disarmament in which all states will participate on an equal footing as being the most important task of international politics at the present time. At the same time they reaffirmed the peoples' right to defend their freedom and to struggle against reaction, colonialism and racism.

The two sides noted the significance of the European security conference and stressed the need for the continuations of the implementation of the resolutions of the Helsinki Conference. They expressed their support for these resolutions which have helped to secure permanent peace in Europe. They reaffirmed that European security is strongly linked with the security in the Mediterranean and the Arab region, and therefore have called for the liquidation of the colonialist military bases in the Mediterranean so that the latter will become a lake of peace for the good of its own peoples as well as for the peoples of the world. Libya appreciates the positive and effective role which the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic is playing in implementing the conference's final resolutions in order to strengthen peace and develop international cooperation.

The two sides expressed deep satisfaction with the progress of the nonalined movement and the efforts this movement is making to consolidate peace and stability throughout the world and to support the national liberation movements and the issues which interest all of mankind.

In this connection they stressed the significance of the sixth summit conference of the heads of state and government of the nonalined countries which will be held in Havana this year.

The two sides also praised the positive role being played by the nonalined group in laying down a new international economic system based on justice, equality and the peoples' right to control and administer their own natural resources in a manner that will bring about their economic development. The Czechoslovak Socialist Republic appreciated the constructive role which Libya is playing within the nonalined movement in an attempt to consolidate its anticolonial policy.

The two sides exchanged views regarding the current situation in Iran and strongly condemned all forms of pressure and colonialist interference in the internal affairs of this country which are directed against the interests of the Iranian people.

The two sides reaffirmed their adherence to the UN principles and aims and their appreciation for the role which this organization is playing to consolidate world peace and international security.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the development of economic, scientific and technical cooperation between their countries which is proceeding in a spirit of mutual understanding.

The joint Libyan-Czechoslovak Committee discussed various aspects of economic, commercial and technical cooperation as well as cooperation in the fields of energy and health and agriculture, and the exchange of specialists, vocational training, technical education and communications. The two sides agreed that there are new horizons for the development of such cooperation in the interest of the two countries.

At the end of the talks of the joint committee an agreement was signed.

The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the visit of Czechoslovak Premier Lubomir Strougal and with the results of his talks with the Libyan leaders. The Czechoslovak premier expressed his thanks for the hospitality which he was given during the visit and extended an invitation to staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress of Libya, to pay an official visit to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. This invitation was accepted with gratitude and its date will be fixed in due course.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES SANDINIST, MIR, MAPU REPRESENTATIVES

LD051700 Tripoli JANA in English 1517 GMT 5 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 5, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The leader of the Great First of September Revolution and secretary general of the General People's Congress, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, received last night delegations from the Sandinist National Liberation Movement of Nicaragua and the Revolutionary Movement of Costa Rica as well as from MIR and MAPU movements of Chile.

MAURITANIA

MINISTER ATTACKS ATTEMPTS TO DESTABILIZE NATIONAL SECURITY

PA062229 Paris AFP in French 1507 GMT 6 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Nouakchott, 6 Feb (AFP)--In a statement published on Tuesday by the newspaper ACH-CHA'AB, Mauritanian Interior Minister Cmdr Jiddou Ould Saleck strongly criticized minority groups which, according to him, are deliberately trying to disrupt the security and peace of the Mauritanian people and to destabilize the government. The minister denounced the virulent campaign which was translated into [words indistinct] by the appearance of antigovernment graffiti on certain walls in Nouakchott and, more recently, by the dissemination of propaganda leaflets and alarming rumors.

Cmdr Jiddou Ould Saleck did not dismiss the possibility that these small groups are receiving instructions from abroad to create an exploitable situation within the country. He added that all [words indistinct] have been adopted to prevent a continuation of this situation.

His statement was issued at a time when the latent conflict between Moorish and black communities in Mauritania over the question of Arabization of education has given rise to several hours of turmoil in the Mauritanian capital. Apparently everything began last Friday when a group of black teachers decided during a meeting to call a strike at the beginning of the week to protest the decision to Arabize education taken by former President Moktar Ould Daddah and reaffirmed by the National Military Reorganization Committee [MCNR].

Several high-ranking leaders finally convinced the teachers to reconsider. Nevertheless, according to persistent rumors, a demonstration by the black African community in Nouakchott took place shortly afterward. Shop owners in the central market stripped their shopwindows Monday at noon and barred their store fronts. Clashes took place soon afterward in the downtown sector. Unconfirmed reports even included a riot between ethnic Moorish and black sectors in a district in the southern part of Nouakchott.

The MCNR met Monday chaired by chief of state Col Mustapha Ould Mohamed Saleck to analyze the situation. An appeal to reflect was issued by the committee to the country's main leaders, reliable sources said.

On Monday night the military and civilian police intensified their patrols. On Tuesday morning the situation in Nouakchott was perfectly calm and activities at the central market had become virtually normal.

GOVERNMENT ASKED TO ACT AGAINST DISRUPTERS, CRIMINALS

LD070145 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 6 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Following a detailed discussion of the current situation, the Military Committee for National Recovery has requested the government to take all measures necessary to destroy the campaign to poison the national public opinion which is now rampant in the country. The committee has demanded punishment for those who commit disturbances and all criminals trying to destroy the ethical bases and harmony on which the unity of our people depend.

PEOPLE URGED NOT TO SUCCUMB TO 'DIVIDE AND RULE' TACTICS

LD072205 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 6 Feb 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Before 10 July--that is, the recent past--our country was declining and about to fall into an abyss. And today, as the shadow of bankruptcy and division is beginning to disappear as a result of the firm effort of the Military Committee for National Recovery [MCNR] and as the glad tidings of peace and development appear on the horizon, the enemies of this people carry out an [word indistinct] subversive act for the purpose of dragging us to the brink of the abyss which we have avoided through our success, by way of taking us back to quarrelling and a return to the old detested strife.

The messengers of evil have over-looked in their calculations the maturity of our people, the vigilance and determination of our leadership and our people who stand mobilized behind the objectives of the MCNR. The hopes and calculations of the agitators will be destroyed because the Mauritanian people, thanks be to God, have become mature. If our national arena, from the angle of the social and economic circumstances, could be suitable for rumors and false propaganda, our people are now unaware of their own interests to the extent believed by their enemies.

Every Mauritanian who can be proud of this name can never reconcile himself to despondency, quarrelling or, God forbid, to the disintegration of the country. Everyone of us has the right to ask: Who is behind the wave of tendentious propaganda? The answer to this question is not a tiresome task. The matter concerns (?those) who do (?not) want this country to enjoy peace, stability and development. In one word, the matter concerns the enemies of national recovery and reformation. The matter concerns those who want brothers to quarrel so that ambiguity prevails, and who want the regime which came to rescue the country from devastation and division to embark on a blind campaign of oppression.

No one in Mauritania sees in the objectives behind the subversion [word indistinct]. An honest observer cannot see in these endeavors a real danger or even an object of comment. One must bear in mind that the special circumstances we are experiencing as we proceed in the direction of peace are considered a difficult stage to an extent that the dangers of collapse become numerous and various in [word indistinct] and colors. Therefore, our duty is to be vigilant and to stand up to the agents and traitors who naturally have not ceased to exploit the serious and delicate aspects of the cultural and racial fields for the purpose of creating disunity which if it happened can only mean a disaster in the current circumstances.

It is obvious that the cadres and all people with sense in this country [words indistinct] have a duty to refute and combat poisonous propaganda. Everyone should know that the atmosphere of ambiguity and division is not in the interests of anyone in Mauritania, whose people have reached an extent or maturity such as has made them vigilant against falling once again a victim to the most sinister and oldest colonial principle: divide and rule.

Arrests Made

PA072229 Paris AFP in French 1138 GMT 7 Feb 79 PA

[Text] Nouakchott, 7 Feb (AFP)--It was learned from a reliable source in Nouakchott on Wednesday that in the past 24 hours, Mauritanian authorities arrested several persons suspected of promoting a propaganda campaign to destabilize the government.

In addition, an official communique states that after considering the tension which suddenly developed in the Mauritanian capital on Monday, the Military Committee of National Recovery [MCNR] asked the government to take all necessary measures to clear up the misinformation that is widespread in the country. The communique added that the MCNR also called for the arrest of all agitators and all those guilty of subversive maneuvers designed to undermine the moral bases of the people's unity and cohesiveness.

For its part, the Mauritanian Press Agency (AMP), in a commentary entitled "Why This Public Unrest," expressed the belief that the present intensification of destabilization efforts derives directly from the failure of the 10 July movement's attempts to recover power following the overthrow of President Moktar Ould Daddah.

Therefore, there remained only propaganda which, from the first, sought to create the impression that there was dissension within the country's government, the AMP added.

The Mauritanian people are aware of all this and have demonstrated that they will never lend themselves to the game of their enemies. These enemies are deluding themselves when they try to manipulate the people like a herd of sheep. They are underestimating the people's maturity. They fail to realize that the movement of national recovery (?reflects) the people's aspirations, the agency concludes.

The AMP did not mention the conflict existing between the Moorish and black communities regarding the matter of the Arabization of Mauritania.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI RETURNS FROM SAUDI ARABIA

JN081115 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 8 Feb 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 8 February--Sudanese President Muhammad Ja'far Numayri returned to Khartoum at 1130 today from Saudi Arabia. During his 2-day visit to Saudi Arabia, the Sudanese president held important talks with Saudi King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz on bilateral relations and the situation in the Arab and international arenas.

Viewpoints between the two countries were identical on all issues discussed.

Minister of Presidential Affairs Dr Baha ad-Din Idris has stated that the visit was successful.

TUNISIA

CULTURE MINISTER ADDRESSES FIFTH ISLAMIC CONFERENCE

LD061650 Tunis TAP in English 1549 GMT 6 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Tunis, Feb 6 (TAP)--The fifth Islamic conference opened Monday afternoon in Al Qayrawan under the chairmanship of Mohamed Yawali, culture minister.

In an opening address, Yawali notably declared "the intellectual Muslim must show to young people that Islam is not limited to faith and absolute truths only; it is also concerned with universal matters and provides efficient solutions to all problems." Speaking about the subjects discussed during the four previous Islamic conferences, the minister stressed the necessity to link the subjects of the conference to the present occupations of Islamic peoples and notably to questions that they are concerned with particularly such as family planning and the unification of the lunar calendar.

The aim of organizing such a conference, he added, is to make Al Qayrawan recover its prestige. "It also offers to the Islamic thinkers from all countries an opportunity to meet periodically and discuss the problems of Islamic countries and study the means of spreading Islam throughout the world," Yawali concluded.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR GIVES RESULTS OF FIRST MONTH OF NEW OFFENSIVE

LD071154 Algiers APS in Arabic 0700 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] Western Sahara--The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] Defense Ministry issued on Tuesday a military communique on the total result of 1 month of the "Houari Boumediene" offensive by the Saharan People's Liberation Army against the royal occupation forces in the Western Sahara and in southern Morocco. The statement makes it clear that during this period, the Saharan fighters shot down 2 Moroccan F-5 aircraft and 4 helicopters and captured 73 military and civilian Moroccans. In addition, 1,734 Moroccan soldiers, 1 officer and 1 warrant officer were killed, and more than 1,300 soldiers were injured. The Saharan fighters captured significant and diverse quantities of military equipment.

More on Tan-Tan Fighting

LD071706 Algiers APS in French 1000 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Summary] The liberated territories, 7 February, APS--The Saharan Defense Ministry yesterday published a communique in which it reported on a further operation by the Saharan People's Liberation Army in the Tan-Tan area. In the operation several monarchist garrisons were attacked. Military installations were destroyed and 39 Moroccan soldiers were killed. The attacks took place on 3 February in the north of Western Sahara and in southern Morocco. The Saharan forces occupied the garrison at Tilemson for several hours and set it on fire. In this action 23 occupants of the garrison were killed and more than 15 others were also killed. Similar operations were launched against the garrisons of Hasi Tifariti and Jdiria where about 12 Moroccan soldiers were killed.

BEGIN RECEIVES INVITATION TO PEACE TALKS

TA071630 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 7 Feb 79 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] A short while ago, Prime Minister Menahem Begin received the U.S. President's invitation to the ministerial talks that are due to take place at Camp David in about 2 weeks. The invitation will be presented to the Cabinet on Sunday. The following is a report by our political correspondent Yosi 'Abadi:

According to the invitation extended by U.S. Ambassador Lewis to the prime minister, the talks will open on the 21st or 22d of this month. The presumed composition of the delegations to the talks is the participants in the Brussels conference: Secretary of State Vance, Foreign Minister Dayan and Egypt's Prime Minister Khalil. The U.S. invitation will most probably be presented to the Cabinet at its weekly session on Sunday. There is a possibility that the Cabinet will be briefed on the matter at its session tomorrow, which was scheduled to sum up the economic discussion. However, the agenda can be changed. The Cabinet will hear a report on the invitation, on the contents of the discussions and on assessments of the possibilities and the prospects.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT Comments

TA071107 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 7 Feb 79 pp 1, 7 TA

[By Arye Tzimmuqi]

[Excerpts] The peace talks on a ministerial level--with the participation of Cyrus Vance, Moshe Dayan and Mustafa Khalil--will open on 20-21 February in Camp David, and the Americans are already preparing proposals aimed at making it possible for the parties to cope with the gap still existing between their positions. President Carter's personal involvement in the talks is also guaranteed.

It is possible that Ministers Shmu'el Tamir and Yosef Burg will also be coopted to the Israeli delegation to the talks. In contrast, it is doubtful whether Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman will be interested in taking part in them.

The Israeli Government will discuss the latest U.S. proposal tomorrow, in its meeting originally intended to discuss only economic matters. It is already clear that argument is expected on the question of the authority to be given to the Israeli delegation and the question of the composition of the delegation. It is possible that Minister Sharon and others will demand preceding the Camp David talks by a thorough discussion of the autonomy problems.

'AL HAMISHMAR Comments

TA071105 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 7 Feb 79 p 1 TA

[By Dalya Shehori]

[Text] Political observers in Jerusalem assess that Israel may meet the United States half-way and consent to the continuation of the negotiations on a ministerial level in Washington although Israel would have preferred the negotiations to be held in the region. [paragraph continues]

The government will deal with this problem tomorrow in its special meeting intended to complete the discussion on the state budget.

It has been learned that the United States proposes that the talks between Israel and Egypt be resumed in Washington in the third week of this month on a ministerial level. Secretary of State Vance will conduct the negotiations for the U.S. The United States is now awaiting Israel's and Egypt's answers to its proposal.

The government supports upgrading the negotiations to a ministerial level, but prefers the negotiations to be held in the region so it could brief the negotiating team continuously and closely supervise the talks. During the Blair House talks the negotiating team was most limited in its maneuvering options due to the government's suspiciousness toward the moves. It also happened that the government did not accept the team's recommendations and made a decision contrary to its position.

Against this background it is assumed that there is a tendency in the government to endorse the continuation of the talks in Washington. Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan will go on the condition that he receives a certain degree of freedom to maneuver. As may be recalled 2 weeks ago Dayan ceded concentrating the talks with Atherton in his ministry and transferred this to the prime minister's office because it became clear to him that the Israeli negotiating team will not be able to deviate even a little without the approval of the government or the prime minister.

It has been learned that Defense Minister Weizman's participation in the team is not considered. This was explained yesterday by a knowledgeable source, who said that the meeting discussed is on the level of foreign ministers only. But Egypt will be represented by Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil.

According to another source the possibility of the defense minister's participation in the talks should not be excluded in the event the Egyptians decide to co-opt Defense Minister General 'Ali to the talks.

It should be noted that the defense minister still believes that direct talks with Egyptians are preferable to talks with U.S. mediation, although he does not underrate the role the United States is playing in the negotiations.

The assessment in Jerusalem is that Egypt will agree to locating the talks in Washington and it is therefore assumed that Israel too will agree to the resumption of the talks there although the prime minister would prefer holding them here either in the early warning station in Umm Khushayb in the Sinai or by having Vance embark on a shuttle trip between Israel and Egypt.

Vance informed Israel that he cannot think of holding a shuttle trip in the region in the near future and the proposal is then to hold the talks in Washington.

ALLON COMMENTS ON GOVERNMENT ERRORS IN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

TA081036 Tel Avia MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Feb 79 p 4 TA

[By Dalya Mazori]

[Text] Severe criticism of the way the negotiations with Egypt have been conducted was leveled by MK Yig'al Allon yesterday in his lecture given at the Kibbutz Hame'uhad's seminar center in Ef'al.

According to him the freeze in the negotiations has come about because questions of principle were not completely cleared up at Camp David. Among the main issues he mentioned were: the status of the peace treaty with Egypt, which should stand on its own feet autonomously; the problem of the link between the agreement with Egypt and the founding of the autonomy; the security arrangements within the autonomy and on the borders, and the mutual relations with the United States.

"All of these should have been clarified at Camp David and the framework agreements should not have been signed without Israel's having clarified these questions which are of prime importance."

Mr Allon also leveled severe criticism at the Egyptian demand concerning the status of the peace treaty and Egypt's desire to add on explanations to Article VI. In his view, there are focal points of refusal in the Arab world, including the PLO, which will take every opportunity to undermine the peace treaty and permit Egypt to get out of the agreement with us whenever this is convenient for them.

As for the autonomy, Mr Allon expressed amazement at the fact that the negotiating team had not put forward the possibility of making a distinction between populated areas and bare ones. While the autonomy authorities should be granted the authority they are due in the densely populated areas, in unsettled security areas, full Israeli rule should be maintained. "The team which remained at Camp David for so long was not clever enough to make this distinction and opted for a formulation of all or nothing," Mr Allon said.

DAVAR ANALYZES IMPACT OF POSSIBLE U.S.-ARAB PACT ON ISRAEL

TA061117 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Feb 79 p 11 TA

[Hagay Eshed commentary: "Israel--The Fifth Wheel"]

[Text] When U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown comes here soon one should remember that he will not only be visiting Israel, but also Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Egypt. Together with the guest's country--the United States--this will be a meeting of five where Israel will be the fifth wheel on the wagon. This is not meant to underestimate the role of Israel, not at all. Israel is a kind of fifth wheel without which the wagon cannot move forward or even stand still. However, it is nevertheless only a fifth wheel and it is important that this imile be understood.

It involves a correct diagnosis of Israel's role in the Middle Eastern reality and consequently includes a more exact index to the price and the compensation that it would give and receive for the role it plays. [paragraph continues]

A correct diagnosis is a necessary condition for healing the optical disease from which the Israel policy--and also the majority of public opinion--is suffering, that is: a false view of Israel's place in the circle of the Egyptian and U.S. expectations. When we talk about peace between Israel and Egypt, we believe that this is the major issue on the minds of the Egyptians and the Americans alike and that is the main goal of the Camp David accords, for example, and of the rest of the tripartite peace talks between Israel, Egypt and the United States.

Even the outgoing head of intelligence, Maj Gen Shlomo Gazit, repeated this optical illusion in his concluding estimate last week on the prospects of peace between Israel and Egypt as they seemed before and as they seem now. The main basis was missing in his words: namely, that the purpose of As-Sadat's peace initiative, as it is called, is not to establish peace with Israel, but to turn Egypt into the main U.S. ally in the area, so that Egypt will be the main beneficiary--both in quantity and in quality--of the U.S. aid in all its forms: economic, military or political. The peace with Israel, or, to be more precise, the expression of Egyptian preparedness to make peace with Israel, is the price Egypt has to pay in order to decrease the objection in Congress and in U.S. public opinion to granting military and economic aid to Egypt. Peace with Israel is not the goal but the price and the primary Egyptian goal is not peace with Israel but to be an ally of the United States. As-Sadat's peace initiative is one of the more successful expressions of his "strategy of circuitous approach" which guides all his steps.

If this diagnosis is correct, then there is no stalemate in the negotiations, and there is no danger that the talks between Israel and Egypt might blow up. The major process of strengthening the U.S.-Egyptian alliance is continuing without a stop and will reach another important phase in the upcoming visit of the secretary of defense to the area. The Egyptian-U.S. wedding is continuing and only Israel is appealing with the claim that it has the bride's clothes and fears that the ceremony could not take place without it. This is a sorry mistake. The conclusion is: If Israel is not the bride, why should it bring the dowry? If they want to get married, why should we provide the apartment?

When Harold Brown comes here, he will seriously discuss establishing a military alliance (which will nevertheless not be called by this name) between the United States and three neighboring Arab countries: Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan. All three of them will receive the same types of arms systems and, most significantly, the same type of aircraft, anti-aircraft equipment and ground-to-air services which will have to operate as one unit in times of war. Egyptian aircraft will enjoy the ground services of the airfields and the radar systems of Saudi Arabia and Jordan, and vice versa.

The Israeli Negev and the new airfields which will be built there will be surrounded by a closely knit and dense network of Arab air forces based on unified U.S. equipment and technology. This will constitute a very effective infrastructure for a war against Israel and it will also be the infrastructure necessary for peace with Israel, because the Arab price for these U.S. services must be peace with Israel, or at least an avoidance of war against it, as a war against Israel will prevent--or at least will make difficult--the continuation of U.S. aid to the Arab countries. It is not desirable to Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan for other reasons as well. These are the dialectics of the reality which exists. The military pact endangering Israel also constitutes the foundation of a peace treaty and peaceful relations with Israel.

Since Israel alone can pay the heavy price of any war against it in the future and since it is not the major benefactor from the fruits of the peace treaty and the U.S. aid, there is no reason why Israel should be so generous in providing the dowry for the marriage to which it is no party--neither on the bridegroom's side nor on the bride's side--and is, moreover, not even one of the bridesmaids.

If this diagnosis is correct, then time certainly works for us because the more the establishment of this Arab-U.S. pact progresses, the more the common interest of the parties will grow not to ruin it by waging a war against Israel; and this is Israel's major role in this entire Middle Eastern party--not to interfere with the pact, not to ruin it. This is a marginal role, a modest one, but an essential one as well because we can certainly harm it, but we don't want to. On the contrary, we can and want to help a lot by making reasonable concessions. It is highly regrettable that we have helped by making extravagant and unnecessary concessions. The wedding would have taken place even without the Israeli dowry of conceding all the Sinai with its airfields and the naval base in Ofira. A pretty and modest gift to the bride and the bridegroom could have sufficed. It is still not too late to correct the Israeli optical illusion.

We must notice and understand our rightful place and our precise role on the new Middle Eastern map and, from now on, demand full compensation for the large gift and perhaps even a revision of the agreement and the postponement of the implementation of its next stages. Much will be said during the upcoming visit of U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown, both here and in the neighboring countries, about the new strategic map of the region and on the role of Israel, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and Egypt on this U.S. map, what the price is and what the compensation each of the five countries--with all the differences that exist between them--ought to give and receive for the role it must and can play in the near and distant future.

BURG SAYS MINISTRIES SHOULD BE TRANSFERRED TO JERULALEM

TA071145 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Feb 79 p 4 TA

[By Yosef Wachsman]

[Text] The head of the Ministerial Committee for Jerusalem Affairs, Dr Yosef Burg, recommends that the finance minister include in the state budget an allocation for starting to build government offices on an area of 20,000 square meters in Qiryat ben-Gurion in Jerusalem and another 12,000 square meters in Esh Sheikh Jarrah, so that government ministries could be transferred from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Dr Burg wrote to Finance Minister Ehrlich yesterday that transferring the government offices to Jerusalem is one of the basic guidelines of the government's policy and that since 1974 Jerusalem has been going through a process of recession with respect to the demographic relation between the Jewish and Arab populations which is not in Israel's favor.

Dr Burg added in his letter: "I view the situation as critical and intensive action must be adopted to transfer the government offices to Jerusalem. This issue has both a political and practical significance."

BEGIN REJECTS CALLS FOR EHRLICH'S RESIGNATION

TA072100 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 7 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Tonight, the prime minister rejected calls at the Herut convention demanding the finance minister's resignation. I must ask for satisfaction for the insult to the finance minister, since there is no justification for such a demand, Mr Begin said. The prime minister prasied Minister Ehrlich as a dedicated and loyal person. Ehrlich is among the most attacked and condemned of the ministers and Herut members should support him in his difficult task. Only 20 months have passed since the Likud's rise to power and there still is a great work to be done.

LABOR'S REJOICING ON BEGIN'S FALL SAID PREMATURE

TA061246 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 6 Feb 79 p 3 TA

[Dorit Gefen article: "Fata Morgana of Returning to Power"]

[Text] The satisfaction on the faces of several leaders of the Labor Party in light of the frequent missteps of the Likud Cabinet and especially in light of the "collegial compliments" which the Cabinet ministers bestow on one another--whether they belong to the same party or are from different parties--comes a bit too early, because such things have already happened in the past (even in previous cabinets) and it is a mistake to assume that the severed personal relations like the ones we witness in the present Cabinet are proof of its imminent fall.

Labor Party Secretary General MK Hayim Bar-lev said on a radio interview that the Labor Party and the Alinement have at least three serious candidates for every ministerial position in the Cabinet. This is probably true and stands out most prominently against the background of the clear lack of serious and weighty figures for senior positions in the Likud. But who other than the secretary general of the Labor Party should know that as long as he is not able to declare that his party will have three seats in the Knesset for every minister, then all this is mere verbiage.

The recuperation talked about in the Labor Party is still a slow process. One could of course be impressed--and let us not underestimate this--by the return of a group of professors and academicians to the Labor Party. The phenomenon of artists and intellectuals who are trying to find the way to return to the Labor Party may also encourage the party leaders. To this one could add the work of Mikha'el Bar-Zohar with "the bunch," which is also intended to open the doors of the party to young people and drive them closer to the Labor Party. But with all the importance of these activities, they still cannot treat the party's "Achilles" heel, that is that vast public which can give the mandates necessary for a change of administration in Israel. The reference is to the eastern communities, the residents of [lower income] neighborhoods and development towns. To paraphrase a very well-known statement made at the time by Yosef Almogi, who said that one slum neighborhood is preferable to several professors, a development town or a large district is more important for the Labor Party than several artists or intellectuals, without minimizing the specific importance of each artist or intellectual.

The test for the recuperation of the Labor Party will only be in thorough work by workers and employers and when it can reinstate confidence that the party is their home base, and that against the pseudosocialist demagoguery of the 'Herut' leaders during the Knesset election campaign and against all those pretty promises which proved to be backless lies, the Labor Party has socioeconomic plans which will be able to solve the economy's serious problems.

His Cabinet, despite all its internal strife, will never let go of the rein of power on its own, even if it does not know where it is leading us. Only an unequivocal expression of public lack of confidence during the election could pull it down. Those who glorify over and make plans based on Simha Ehrlich's stories about Begin's intentions not to run for the next election had better not take these stories too seriously. If I am not mistaken, Begin has already announced several personal plans at the end of this term, which I doubt if he will carry out. Thus, for example, he said that he will move to Ne'ot Sinai, but as we all know, Begin made sure at Camp David that not only will he not live there, but that also its permanent residents will have to leave it when the peace treaty with Egypt is signed. Begin also declared that he intended to write a long book on the period of the holocaust and reincarnation when he resigned from office. It is difficult to believe that this will prevent his running at the head of the Likud list. A simpleton may ask: If this is so important to him, why didn't he write it in the 29 years he spent in the opposition, when he had all the time on his hands? But these, of course, are merely words that cannot be taken too seriously. As we all know, Begin quite enjoys power, with all the various mishaps, and I would not advise the opposition to rely on Begin's deciding not to head the Likud list for the 10th Knesset. At most he will comply with the delegations which will come to him pleading that "the good of the country takes precedence over everything."

No doubt, the popularity of the Likud and its government has dropped during the 26 months of being in power. The euphoria of the political somersault has dissipated and reality has revealed itself in its naked state. One hardly talks about the let-down caused by the Cabinet over the peace negotiations. One day there will be talk of the Begin Cabinet's terrible sin in wasting so shamefully the atmosphere of peace--which began with As-Sadat's visit--and in turning the peace into something totally uninspiring and unexciting. Currently, the public is worried about daily and hourly matters, when each day brings with it a list of price rises and ideas which have been discarded years ago, such as, for example, linking the mortgage on apartments to the cost of living index which, as we all know, is a throwback to the state of affairs which at the time had thousands of heads of families up in arms over finding themselves enslaved for life to the loans because of such a linkage. And now, this Cabinet wants to turn the clock back, as though it has made a great discovery--yet it does so in times when inflation knows no limits and in which anyone who takes on a mortgage will not be able to pay back the capital and the interest, which will, in turn, balloon "thanks" to inflation.

Still, the Labor Party cannot as yet rub its hands and wait for the power to fall into its hands like a ripe fruit. And the Likud, as we know, makes life easy for itself. All the evils it thrusts on the public it immediately attributes to the "terrible inheritance" it received from the Alinement. This argument apparently works, otherwise the Likud leaders would not use it so often. The Labor Party and the Alinement still do not know how to react to such arguments and usually, out of a conditioned reflex, they go on the defensive. Only recently have they started changing their tactics a bit.

One can say that the Histadrut secretary general, Yeruham Meshel, is right when he says that the Histadrut undergoes a daily trial in its marketing networks--the supermarkets and the Mashbir Latzarkhan department stores. Since the Histadrut, in the eyes of the public, is identified with the Labor Party and the Alinement, one can only regret their not taking advantage of the opportunity to provide a good example. Comrade Meshel has probably not seen what thousands of buyers see--how the prices on merchandise on the shelves are being changed. I do not mean new merchandise, but the old stock. No wonder the public later claims that the Labor Party activists and the Histadrut are no better than the owners of private plants and the finance minister.

It is hard to win over the public's hearts through promises--the public is weary of them--but through deeds. This, of course, is only one angle, but it affects the entire family, daily. Another angle might, for example, be the tuition in private kindergarten. The Likud Cabinet is rejoicing over the plum of free high school education that it has granted us, but when tuition fees for kindergartens are almost as high as were those for high schools doubt arises as to who will be able to even get to high school when, due to the high cost of kindergarten education, many children will remain at home (as is the case in big families) and from the beginning be branded as retarded, compared to those children whose parents can afford paying such extravagant sums of money.

Before the Labor Party deals with choosing its ministers for the Cabinet headed by it, it should observe the long and difficult way that lies ahead in explaining its paths and plans. It is, of course, very important to present the Likud's errors in all their nakedness, but at the same time it must provide constructive answers that can stand practical tests. Even though currently there are signs that many of the Likud voters are sobering up, this still does not constitute a guarantee that the Likud propagandists will not succeed, through demagogic campaigns, in persuading them once again. The Labor Party and the Alinement cannot allow themselves to rely either on Ehrlich's mistakes or on Begin's declarations that he would resign at the end of the term, or on any medical diagnoses made by the ministers of one another, but they must rely only on themselves, and for this they still have to work hard.

YEDI'OT CRITICIZES ENGLAND FOR NOT SELLING OIL TO ISRAEL

TA060917 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 6 Feb 79 TA

[Editorial: "Hypocrisy"]

[Text] The British Government's announcement that it will no longer sell oil to "Israel and South Africa" is surprising. Why didn't London formulate its statement in the affirmative and announce to what country it would sell oil? Why did England have to say to whom it will not sell oil? And why does it link us specifically with South Africa, even though both countries have totally different problems? Indeed, there is no other answer to all these questions but that the British Cabinet strongly desires to get closer to Khomeyni's camp and show him that it is like him and that he can do business with it. And the one who issued the statement is not a confirmed antisemite but Callaghan, the 'Laborite'. This is the face of the world.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REJECTS REPORTS OF HARSH TREATMENT OF DETAINEES

TA071231 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 7 Feb 79 TA

[Text] The Foreign Ministry totally denies the contents of the report published by the Washington POST today from which it learned that it is customary to methodically torture security detainees in the territories in the course of their investigation. The Foreign Ministry spokesman has also emphasized that the official of the Jerusalem U.S. Consulate, Alexandra Johnson, who sent reports in this spirit to the State Department, was in the meantime dismissed after it was learned she is mentally unstable.

The Washington POST writes today that on the basis of this official's reports the State Department submitted a report to ongress about upholding rights in the territories which was sharply worded this time. The State Department spokesman refused to react to this affair.

Justice Minister Scores Allegations

TA081022 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 8 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir says that the allegations published by the U.S. Washington POST about the torture of security detainees in Israel is a libel completely without foundation. Mr Tamir said he can state on behalf of the government that there is no torture in Israel and that there has never been torture. He noted that Israel has an agreement with the International Red Cross, according to which its representatives are free to make thorough examinations in prisons where security detainees are kept. Last year the Red Cross personnel made 1,278 such visits and only in 6 percent of the cases did they request to investigate complaints of prisoners. The Red Cross can send a physician to examine prisoners and a doctor from the organization even spent time in Israel, but left the country, as he had nothing to do.

The justice minister went on to say that the Red Cross is entitled to an unrestricted interrogation of security detainees. He was speaking at a news conference in Jerusalem.

Minister Tamir told our cooresponden Shmu'el Tal that the interference of the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem in Israel's domestic issues and the consulate's intensive activity in the territories are issues that should be examined on government level. He urged world media to examine the reports published by them, in view of the transparent attempt to publicly denegrate Israel's name.

JERUSALEM ARAB STUDENTS STAGE SIT DOWN STRIKE AT CAMPUS

TA071334 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 7 Feb 79 TA

[Text] The members of the Arab Students' Committee held a sit-down strike on the campus of the Jerusalem Hebrew University to protest the house-arrest orders issued against the six Arab students who signed the pro-PLO manifesto. The members of the Arab Students' Committee signed a petition calling for the cancellation of the house-arrest orders and action against the incitement campaign conducted, according to them, against Arab students at the university. An assembly will be held at the university in the afternoon with the participation of lecturers and other personages to protest the house-arrest orders.

JERUSALEM RADIO: KHOMEYNI SUPPORTERS CONTROL TWO CITIES

TA071814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 7 Feb 79 TA

[Excerpt] Ayatollah Khomeyni's supporters, in fact, now control two central cities in south Iran: Esfahan and Shiraz. They are about to gain control of other provincial cities.

KHOMEYNI SUFFERING FROM FATIGUE, TO REST

TA071802 Paris AFP in English 1759 GMT 7 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, 7 Feb (AFP)--Opposition leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni is suffering from fatigue and is to rest tomorrow on doctor's orders, well-informed religious sources said here today. The 78-year-old Shi'ite Muslim leader underwent a medical examination today after which his personal doctor declared him to be "tired, but in very good health," the sources said. Since returning to Iran last Thursday after 15 years' exile, the ayatollah has worked more than 16 hours every day, but tomorrow he will meet only "very important people" and deal only with urgent matters, the sources added.

TEHRAN MARCHERS DEMONSTRATE IN SUPPORT OF KHOMEYNI

LD071825 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] Demonstrations in support of His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni took place in various parts of the capital today, more extensively in Tehran University, where the demonstrators expressed their backing for Engineer Bazargan. Other demonstrations in support of Ayatollah Khomeyni took place in the streets around Tehran University. We have also had a report on a march by two smaller groups from the southern and eastern parts of Tehran toward the residence of the ayatollah.

'THOUSANDS' HOLD PRO-BAKHTIAR RALLY IN AMJADIYEH STADIUM

LD071830 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Text] At the invitation of the Cooperative Party of Iran [Hezb-e Ta'avon-e Iran] thousands of people held a rally in Tehran's Amjadiyeh Sports Stadium and expressed their support for the constitution and the government of Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar. Talks took place during the rally on the constitution and the manner of carrying it out correctly. Toward the end of the rally it was announced that at the invitation of the Cooperative Party, another rally will also take place at 0900 on Friday, 9 February in support of the constitution in Tehran's Amjadiyeh Stadium.

RELIGIOUS LEADERS CALL FOR 8 FEBRUARY DEMONSTRATIONS

LD071820 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Text] At the invitation of the Tehran religious community, various citizens groups will hold a march in the capital tomorrow. The groups participating in this march have so far issued statements on the preparations for these demonstrations, explaining the manner in which they will take place. In a statement, the Freedom Movement [Nahzat-e Azadi] also called on the people to take part in this march. The route of the march is the same as in previous marches. It is said that similar marches will also take place in provincial cities tomorrow.

TEHRAN MILITARY GOVERNORATE COMMUNIQUE ON 8 FEB MARCH

LD071921 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Communique No 39 of the Military Governorate of Tehran and District issued 7 February]

[Text] Esteemed citizens of the capital, in pursuance of the government policy based on the freedom of assembly and orderly marches without provocations and exacerbations, a number of citizens have requested holding a march on Thursday, 8 February, to be held with complete order and discipline along prescribed routes, causing no clashes or actions undermining public order. Implementing government measures, the Military Governorate of Tehran and District has offered the necessary cooperation and coordination in carrying out the requests of a number of esteemed citizens of the capital, and has offered the necessary facilities for carrying out the marches. Fortunately, thanks to the awareness and vigilance of the fellow citizens, recent marches have taken place without the smallest clashes and unpleasant incidents. Since opportunist elements subservient to foreign and mobilized groups are striving to make use of every opportunity in order to disrupt the existing order and tranquillity in the capital, and to implement their antinational aims and goals through fomenting tension and anarchy, the Military Governorate of Tehran and District has warned the esteemed citizens of the capital. It has acquainted them with the plot which is about to be hatched by the enemies of Iran so that they may watch with complete vigilance for the antinational and traitorous elements, agents and armed subversives, so that these elements cannot infiltrate the ranks of the march and disrupt its calm and healthy atmosphere.

It is axiomatic that the Military Governorate officials will defeat and crush with the utmost severity any attacks on public institutions or onslaughts on the city's sensitive and vital points--the ministries and organizations of the army, the gendarmerie and the police of the imperial state--whose safeguarding is of special priority. In conclusion, in order to insure the proper conduct of the march, I draw the participants' attention to and request them to observe the following points:

1. The esteemed people using Mehrabad Airport should use the Karaj highway for their comings and goings.

2. The groups participating in the march should not go beyond Shahyad Square toward Mehrabad Airport.

3. The groups should also refrain from marching along the route of Seyyed Khandan Bridge, the Qasr intersection and along Kurosh Kabir Avenue from north to south and vice versa.

[Signed] The Military Governorate of Tehran and District, Lt Gen Mehdi Rahim

BILL TO ABOLISH SAVAK INTRODUCED IN SENATE

LD072025 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpt] During the open session of the Senate, held today under the chairmanship of Dr Seyyed Mohammad Sajjadi, two government bills were announced connected with the trial and punishment of those who have transgressed the people's rights, and the dissolution of the Organization of Intelligence and State Security [SAVAK].

During the session a number of senators spoke about the recent events in the country, and then the minister of health and welfare introduced Dr Manuchehr Shayan to the Senate as the parliamentary undersecretary to his ministry. The minister of posts and telecommunications introduced Engineer Sarhangzadeh as parliamentary undersecretary of his ministry.

TEHRAN RADIO CITES USSR, PRC ATTITUDES ON U.S. POLICY

LD071418 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The USSR Government today claimed that the United States supported the Bakhtiar government. PRAVDA, the official organ of the CPSU, said today that the Bakhtiar government would no longer be able to withstand the movement that has been brought about in Iran under the leadership of the Ayatollah Khomeyni. PRAVDA said the majority of the Iranian nation demanded a change of regime in that country. Bakhtiar relies on the army and special forces which continue to remain loyal to the shah. The paper says if the U.S. Government did not support Bakhtiar and the Iranian Army, Bakhtiar would not be able to continue his government. PRAVDA further claims that the U.S. Government is also interfering in Iran's foreign policy.

While this is what the Soviet Government claims about the situation in Iran, Deng Xiaoping, vice premier of the PRC State Council, has also said in Tokyo today that U.S. policy in Iran and Korea would lead to an increase in Soviet influence in these countries. On his way back to Beijing [Peking] from his visit to the United States he had a stopover in Tokyo for talks with the Japanese prime minister. Deng Xiaoping also said: It was not correct to bring up these issues as they really were with my hosts in the United States. The fact is, however, that the United States has made a political mistake with regard to Iran, and that, by this mistake, it will leave the door open for the Soviet Union to move into this country because there are a large number of Soviet citizens living in Iran. At the same time we have witnessed open Soviet interference in Vietnam and Korea. He added that the Soviet Union has been involved in recent developments in Iran. After Iran, it would probably be the turn of Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and India because for some time now the Soviet Union, through Cuba, has been extending its influence in Africa and Latin America. In conclusion, he said if the United States had adopted the appropriate and suitable measures the situation would not have come to the present stage.

DEPUTIES' RESIGNATIONS LEGAL AS OF 8 FEBRUARY

LD071140 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Because 15 legal days have gone by since a group of 22 minority Majlis deputies read out their resignation statement at an open session of the Majlis on 24 January, the resignations of these deputies will be regarded as legally in effect as of tomorrow, 8 February. Included in this group of deputies are the pan-Iranists and other minority independents who resigned on 20 January. Of these, only Dr Shirvani has withdrawn his resignation.

AFP REPORTS MORE MAJLIS DEPUTIES RESIGN

TA071455 Paris AFP in English 1453 GMT 7 Feb 79 TA

[Text] Tehran, 7 Feb (AFP)--Forty-four deputies have quit the Iranian parliament since opposition leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni declared it illegal, the pro-Islamic newspaper ETTELA'AT reported today.

During yesterday's assembly session, 22 new resignations were announced, bringing the total to 44, ETTELA'AT said. Ayatollah Khomeyni has called on all deputies and senators to resign.

BAKHTIAR HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE, COMMENTS ON ELECTIONS

LD080956 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0830 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] AFP has reported that Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar, the Iranian prime minister, at a radio, television and press interview held this morning, announced that he would accept a referendum held in a calm atmosphere and in accord with democratic criteria, but that this would not be possible in circumstances filled with disturbances and confusion.

The Iranian prime minister also said: Although the Majlis election is scheduled to take place next Khordad [month beginning 22 May], the date may be moved up. Dr Bakhtiar said: If the Majlis election were held in a disturbed and tense atmosphere, it would be disastrous. The Iranian prime minister added: Above all, I am struggling first for Iranian national unity and democracy, and second for free elections and for finding out the views of the majority of the Iranian nation, something to which I bow. The Iranian prime minister emphasized that the strikes must end as soon as possible so that the dangerous consequences of the Iranian economic situation may be averted. Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar said: In order to confront [word indistinct] political parties and other groups, views and ideas concerned should be expressed clearly so that the people can choose what is right for them.

'SEVERAL MILLION' MARCH ON 8 FEB IN SUPPORT OF BAZARGAN

LD081016 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Several million people today staged marches in Tehran and many of our provincial cities. At the end of these marches, the participants expressed their support for the government of Engineer Mehdi Bazargan.

AYATOLLAH TALEQANI MAKES STATEMENT ON THREATS AGAINST PEOPLE

LD07200 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Text] Following repeated representations made by various groups of people to Ayatollah Taleqani, he has counselled in a statement: Do not threaten the people with murder and arson. Addressing the people, Ayatollah Taleqani emphasized that, first of all, they should give no importance to these threats and should not disturb themselves and their families about them; secondly, should they be subjected to transgression, theft and other vile deeds they should defend their lives, property, honor and dignity with complete seriousness, enthusiasm, bravery and singlemindedness, since self-defense is the right of everyone who is attacked.

In his statement, Ayatollah Taleqani also covered the question of the threat to workers in Qazvin. He reminds the authorities concerned to put an end to the disturbance immediately and thereby dispel the anxieties and worries from the minds of our dear brothers and their families. He also strongly counselled that no one, under any pretext, should interfere in the affairs entrusted to cemetery personnel, and that only those concerned could take steps to escort funerals and pay homage to those who have been killed, as far as is possible and expedient. The statement added: Of course our brethren in faith, by their watchfulness and cooperation, will try to create no difficulties and discontent for the hardworking cemetery workers.

DEFENSE ACADEMY GRADUATES URGED NOT TO INTERFERE IN POLITICS

LD071750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Excerpts] The graduation ceremony of the fourth course of the joint staff of the National Defense Academy took place yesterday in the presence of General Qarabaghi, chief of the supreme commanders' staff.

After handing out the graduation diplomas, General Qarabaghi addressed the cadets and their instructors. Referring to the high quality of this academic course, he noted: We should always bear in mind and be guided by three fundamental policy and guidance principles of the Imperial Armed Forces. The first principle is noninterference by the army in political affairs. Of course, the cadet officers in this academy study and analyze the fundamental elements of national strategy--that is, political, economic, cultural and military issues--and display the necessary degree of awareness with regard to these issues. However, we ought to strive, as in the past, not to interfere in politics. The second principle is safeguarding the independence and integrity of the country and its constitution, and supporting the lawful government. The third principle is preserving the army's monolithic unity, to which we should pay special attention in order to guard the realm and the heritage left us by our ancestors through sacrificing their blood.

ECONOMICS MINISTER REPORTS ON FINANCIAL POSITION

LD080946 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 8 Feb 79 LD

[Text] The cabinet's economic group, composed of the prime minister, the minister of economy and finance and the deputy directors of the plan and budget organization held a meeting at the prime minister's office yesterday afternoon. At this session the state of the treasury and the projection of receipts and payments to the end of the year [20 March], and a comparison between this projection and the detailed budget for the year were discussed.

Following the meeting, the minister of economic affairs and finance told our reporter: Because of our previous savings, we are not behind with regard to the budget, but instead we are even a good deal ahead. He said from the financial standpoint the government is in a position to meet all banking commitments. The minister of economic affairs and finance said: With the dissolution of redundant organizations, the government will save even more in the future. He added: Bearing in mind that the bazaar will probably resume its business activity next week, arrangements will be made to provide customs and credit facilities.

The cabinet's economic group also discussed deferring repayment and reducing interest rates on welfare loans, particularly housing loans.

BAZARGAN INTERVIEWED IN TEHERAN BY GREEK PAPER

AT071630 Athens ELEVTHEROTIPIA in Greek 7 Feb 79 p 7 AT

["Interview" with "member of the Islamic Revolutionary Council Mehdi Bazargan" by ELEVTHEROTIPIA correspondent in Teheran Georgios Mavros, given presumably in Teheran, on 4 February]

[Text] [Question] The following question tortures me and many of my colleagues. I beg your pardon for asking it bluntly, but please tell me:

During the press conference the day before yesterday, as a member of the Islamic Revolutionary Council you revealed to us that you will be, that you would accept a possible appointment as prime minister because your name and Mr Nazih's (Note 1), (The chairman of the Teheran lawyers' association, Mr Nazih, who has not been in the political limelight, is a close friend of Khomeyni and Bakhtiar and was said by many people to be the most probable, naturally after Bazargan, candidate for a mandate to form a provisional Islamic government. Nazih has been living in Paris and is the man Khomeyni had been using for his contacts with Bakhtiar) are being presented as the the most probable for...

[Answer] Up to this moment I know nothing, but it seems very reasonable to me that in case Khomeyni decides to entrust someone with the formation of a provisional government, that someone will be one of the members of the Revolutionary Council.

[Question] How many and who, in addition to yourself, are members of the council?

[Answer] The responsibility for and right to form a government and publicize the names rests with Khomeyni.

[Question] I would like you to partially analyze for me the Revolutionary Council's program. The day before yesterday you told us that committees of specialists are working on this, and that it is ready.

[Answer] Basically it is not a government program in the sense you mean this in the West. The principles of the program spring from Islam. These committees merely tailor the program to specific conditions. Their criterion, however, is the immediate solution of the important problems facing our country which, as you know, have multiplied in recent months. Much time will be needed to rebuild the country. In many cases we will have to begin by demolishing, and then proceed to rebuild.

[Question] Is the damage really so great?

[Answer] The damage is incalculable. For instance, blast furnaces will have to be rebuilt from scratch.

[Question] Your opponents claim that the strikes ruined the blast furnaces.

[Answer] They hint that the strikes should not have taken place, so that the economy would not have been ruined. It is their right to say this. In any case I prefer 10 ruined blast furnaces to 10 dead people.

[Question] How will you finance the reconstruction?

[Answer] It is well known that we have resources. We shall use our own forces and we believe that we shall heal the wounds in a reasonable period of time.

[Question] How will you deal with the lack of specialized labor resources?

[Answer] Of course, this will not be by opening our borders to all kinds of specialists who, as you know, made fabulous fortunes during the previous regime by allegedly offering us "know-how."

[Question] Will you carry out nationalization?

[Answer] On this issue I can express only my personal viewpoint, and this does not mean a commitment by anyone. Yes, I believe that heavy industries should be nationalized, but gradually, through planning and with great prudence.

Respect for Beneficial Agreements

[Question] The shah has signed agreements and has paid advances for huge projects. For instance, I have in mind 19 nuclear reactors worth $120 billion.

[Answer] We shall respect all the beneficial agreements which Iran's previous governments signed.

[Question] You mean you will not respect detrimental agreements? You know better than I that the West is not in such terrible need of your petroleum, especially after discoveries in the North Sea and Mexico. Consequently, it may blackmail you into respecting them all by, for instance, boycotting you economically.

[Answer] One could precisely liken this to a vicious circle. There are some balancing factors. In any case, the era in which foreigners could impose their will on Iran has, I think, passed. We shall seek friends in all parts of the world. We shall turn our backs on anyone who tries to impose his guardianship over us. And should one persist, we shall show him our fist. Consequently, we shall ignore agreements that were imposed on the people of Iran.

[Question] The military agreements too?

[Answer] Our duty is to restore the country's economy. Khomeyni can do it because he has the means and, especially, because he has all the people behind him.

[Question] What do you intend to do about military expenditures?

[Answer] We believe that this provocative waste in arms constitutes a crime against the people. At the same time, we must have a capable defensive shield.

Equal Relations With the United States

[Question] In any case, one way or another you will depend on the United States since you must obtain arms from somewhere.

[Answer] We also manufacture arms; you must mean modern heavy weapons. Up to a point you are right, but I cannot see where the difficulty lies. In establishing an era of equal relations with the United States, I do not see why we should not buy weapons from it.

[Question] Did you say equal relations?

[Answer] Yes. If the United States truly wishes equal relations with us, we shall be the first to give them our hand.

[Question] I do not know whether you have noticed it too, but you respond to my questions as if you were the ruler. Will the Islamic Revolutionary Council, therefore, have so many authorities?

[Answer] I am answering as a member of the council. Of course, until a plebiscite is held somebody must rule. By a unanimous decision of the people the current government has been proven to be illegal.

[Question] I would like you to reiterate for me, in more detail if possible, the political procedures which will be pursued until the installation of the Islamic republic.

[Answer] The leader of the Iranian people, Khomeyni, will appoint an Islamic Revolutionary Council which will appoint the prime minister and government. (Note 2) (The writer's view is that the Revolutionary Council, the composition of which was not announced yesterday by Khomeyni, has been formed and the non-publicizing of its existence either is the result of some compromise with Bakhtiar or serves a purpose which cannot be anything other than to protect its members from the dangers which are legally entailed by their participation in an organ that questions the Regency Council--that is, an organ which de facto raises a constitutional issue, whereas the appointment of a parallel center of authority, although a duality of authority is thus established, does not immediately raise such a constitutional issue.) The legality of the Revolutionary Council springs precisely from the revolution by all the Iranian people and, after all, it will be submitted to the people's judgement through a plebiscite. The huge demonstrations in all the large cities, the great number of victims and, furthermore, the total uprising of the inhabitants against the regime of the shah and the support for Khomeyni which is obvious constitute the legal backing for the Revolutionary Council.

[Question] By conviction you do not oppose the form of democracy with a sovereign, as opposed to Dr Sanjabi who rejects this form.

[Answer] I have not finished. The government will proclaim elections for a constitutional national assembly which will pass or change the draft constitution to be proposed to it by the Revolutionary Council. The new draft constitution will be presented to the people's judgement in a plebiscite, and parliamentary elections will then be held. I would like to repeat that all these things will be done because it is obvious the people have unreservedly given the mandate to Ayatollah Khomeyni.

[Question] Could you paint a picture of the Islamic republic for me?

[Answer] First let me answer your previous question. The institution of the monarchy is not an issue that depends on my own views. It is an issue of public verdict. Yes, in case the public supports democracy with a sovereign I will not oppose it, of course provided the sovereign does not have any substantive power.

As regards the Islamic republic about which you asked and for which the Iranian people are fighting with such unprecedented self-sacrifice, it will be inspired by the 10 years of Muhammad's rule and by the 5-year rule of the first Shi'ite imam, 'Ali. Naturally their principles and their teachings will be adjusted to the requirements of the current era. It should be understood that we do not need a new institutional framework, because we already have it. It consists of the sacred laws. After all, it is not permissible to create a new institutional framework, because it would be contemptuous of Islam.

[Question] As far as I know, 'Ali of course was a wise ruler, but he was also aggressive. For instance I recall the battles at Badr, (Ukhad), (Humayn), Azhab...

[Answer] My dear friend, do you not suppose that fathoming the philosophy of Islam and the way Muhammad, 'Ali and the other imams ruled is an immense issue? In any case, so that no adverse impressions may be created I will say that the battles you mentioned were battles for the existence and spread of Islam.

[Question] Since this is the way you want it, let us not talk about it. In any case, with all due respect all this seems to me somewhat backward. Perhaps the Western way of thinking should be blamed. [paragraph continues]

I admit it seems very strange to me: Mehdi Bazargan, the only man Iranians respect almost as much as Khomeyni, speaks about a way of government that is similar to the one that was used in 30 A.H. (Note 3) (In our calendar this date corresponds to some time in the 7th Century a.d.) Perhaps this is due to my very limited knowledge of Islam.

[Answer] Your knowledge does not seem to be very limited, but in any case we must consider it limited. Otherwise, what you have said would be slanderous.

[Question] You are the only man whom the strikers will obey, whether they are in Abadan or Esfahan. What will be done about the strikes?

[Answer] The Abadan strikers have returned to their jobs, not because I told them to but because I conveyed to them Khemeyni's will. I cannot know the intentions of the strikers but, in any case, my personal belief is that strikes should continue until Bakhtiar resigns.

[Question] But everything is in chaos. The people are hungry; they are suffering. Naturally this is not the workers' mistake but...

[Answer] You put it correctly; but you must understand that the struggle we are waging is sacred. It is not just a struggle for independence and democracy, it is a struggle in which every Muslim considers it necessary to participate. It is an obligation like a Muslim's daily prayer.

NVOI WELCOMES KHOMEYNI, CALLS FOR REVOLUTIONARY UNITY

TA061517 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 1 February carries two commentaries. In its first commentary, the radio welcomes the return of Ayatollah Khomeyni to Iran and describes the throngs of well-wishers gathered to greet him in and around Mehrabad Airport.

The radio recounts the size and enthusiasm of the ayatollah's reception, explaining how Khomeyni thanked all those who had assembled to meet him. According to the radio, Khomeyni addressed the thousands of people "who had struggled on behalf of freedom" and who had lost their loved ones in the struggle against the shah, the army and the "despotism of the monarchical regime." The ayatollah warned the antigovernment opponents that they must preserve their unity, being careful to insure that splits do not appear between the people after the long years of struggle. "Final victory will only be achieved when all foreigners have left the country and when the Iranian Army has been (?cleansed) of the influence of foreign plots," according to the radio.

In his "short but meaningful" statement, the radio explains, the ayatollah warns the Iranian people of the enemy and their "American masters." He counsels them to maintain their unity and to remain aware of their responsibility to the revolution.

In conclusion, the radio says: "Once again we say welcome to His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni on behalf of all fraternal Muslims and the Iranian nation. Imam Khomeyni, you are welcome!"

In its second commentary, entitled "The Army Should Protect the Nation," the radio recalls that "following his return to the nation, His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni expressed his support for the formation of an effective and powerful army that would guard the interests of the people" from foreign threats. The radio then goes on to explain that "the comments on His Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni are especially important at the present time" when "a group of treacherous and sold-out commanders of the army" in support of the rejected monarchical regime and the Americans "are prepared to block at any price the spread of the Iranian national revolution and the road to freedom."

The radio goes on to describe the freedom-loving people of Iran, who have expressed themselves against the "treacherous" military commanders and their "American masters." This is an "unequal battle between the soldiers who are armed to the teeth with American weapons and under the orders of a handful of treacherous commanders and American spies on one side and, on the other side, millions of unarmed people who only have their determination to continue the struggle until final victory." The radio adds that tens of thousands of people have been killed and injured from among the "brave people" who include the youth, students, intellectuals, university professors, and other segments of society.

Turning to the military, the radio says that patriotic officers, NCO's and soldiers have resisted carrying out the orders of their "treacherous" senior commanders. They recognize that General Huyser and the CIA are "plotting against the Iranian nation." The radio says "it is a joy" to see the number of soldiers who are joining the people's ranks. "During the several-million-strong demonstrations in most of the cities, and especially in Tehran, the struggling people of Iran have seen for themselves that the officers, NCO's and soldiers have shown sympathy and common cause with the people in the battle against the exposed regime of the shah and its remnants in the person of Bakhtiar and his American defenders, and they have restrained themselves from firing on their fathers, brothers, mothers and sisters. This faithfulness and friendship of the patriotic soldiers of Iran" is the way to destroy the monarchy and to insure protection of the nation for its enemies.

The radio then goes on to describe the history of the "democratic movement within the Iranian military," saying that it has a long and memorable tradition. The radio then recalls a series of historical military uprisings and the officers and units which participated in them, promising that their names and deeds will never be forgotten. In the current struggle as well "the names of those officers, NCO's and soldiers who in these sensitive and fateful days have taken sides with the nation will be recorded in history," the radio says.

The commentary concludes with the slogan: "A salute to the brave officers, NCO's and soldiers who have taken the side of the national and democratic struggle and who have sacrificed their (?lives) along this (?magnificent) road."

NVOI ASKS MILITARY TO SUPPORT KHOMEYNI, REJECT BAKHTIAR

TA070010 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1800 GMT on 2 February carries two commentaries. In its first commentary entitled "There Is No Third Road," the radio calls on the officers and men of the military, gendarmerie and police to join ranks with the people.

The radio recalls the throngs of people who greeted Khomeyni's return to Tehran. According to the radio, "the leader of the Iranian people once again confirmed that the shah will never be permitted to return to Iran and that Dr Bakhtiar should step aside. If the Majlis does not want to dismiss Dr Bakhtiar, then the representatives of the Majlis must (?be arrested). Imam Khomeyni declared that the first element in Iran's victory was the flight from the country of the (?basic) traitor named Mohammad Reza." In addition, all aspects of the monarchy and foreign influence must be eliminated from this nation, the radio says.

According to the radio, Khomeyni has declared the end of the monarchy and said that the Iranian people will defend the revolution to the end. "The magnificent and unprecedented reception of His Eminence Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni has shown the deep respect of the Iranian nation for this national and religious leader" who expressed the determination of the nation to fight for freedom and the total destruction of the monarchy.

The radio goes on to explain that the officers and enlisted men of the military are also tired of foreign influence and domination. The army must support the people against "the plots of foreigners--especially Americans." In his instructions to the nation, Khomeyni says that: "Our plans for the Iran of the future have no place for American advisers." Furthermore, the radio says, the United States must remove its bases and its arms sold to Iran which are there in the sole interest of the United States.

The radio continues: "Several times in his messages to the Iranian nation, His Eminence Ayatollah Iman Khomeyni has advised the military to support the nation. The religious and national leader of the Shi'ites and of all Iranians declared in his message that the crimes and (?measures) that the shah forced upon the army brought them nothing but shame [words indistinct]. The officers of the army, police and the gendarmerie of Iran" will not murder their brothers on the orders of unpatriotic superiors, the radio adds.

Addressing the soldiers, the radio asks: For whose protection will you sacrifice your self-respect and belief in Islam? The radio says they must act according to "God's judgment." Patriotic officers, NCO's and soldiers must respond to the nation's call and the call of righteousness by siding with the people, the radio continues. Soldiers are either with the people or with the departed shah because there is no third road, the commentary concludes.

In its second commentary entitled "The Bakhtiar Government Is Illegal and Must Go," the radio recalls Khomeyni's reception upon his return to Iran and the people's decision to continue the struggle to eliminate the remnants of the shah's monarchy and to establish an Islamic national republic.

The radio notes Ayatollah Khomeyni declared clearly that the Bakhtiar government is "illegal" since it was appointed by the shah and imposed on the country by the shah and U.S. "spies." "While inviting our country's people to unite, His Eminence Ayatollah Iman Khomeyni declared that the Iranian nation will continue its sacred struggle until the destruction" of the monarchy and "the termination of foreign plots," the radio adds.

Focusing on the Bakhtiar government, the radio says that as long as Bakhtiar clings to his "illegal" position as prime minister he will be held responsible by the nation. The radio says that Bakhtiar believes that General Huyser, the deputy commander of U.S. forces in Europe, and Sullivan, the U.S. ambassador in Tehran, will protect his regime, but that they are all helpless in the face of Khomeyni and the will of the people. In conclusion, the radio insists that the people must not accept the "illegal" Bakhtiar government.

NVOI SCORES BAKHTIAR GOVERNMENT, WARNS OF 'SPIES'

TA071800 [Editorial Report TA] The Clandestine National Voice of Iran in Azerbaijani to Iran at 1745 GMT on 6 February carries two commentaries. The first commentary scores Bakhtiar as the "tool" of the shah and of the Americans, and stresses the aim of the "revolution." The commentary says: "Bakhtiar is the representative of the shah and of the Majlis left behind by the shah. The shah was rejected and fled the country." "As for Mr Bakhtiar, who is he? He is supposedly the country's legitimate prime minister, a man who was appointed by the shah to implement the shah's and his American masters' orders."

The commentator then notes: Bakhtiar, on his master's orders, has been holding news conferences recently. At one of these conferences he claimed that he was the country's legitimate prime minister.

When asked why he thought so, he replied that he had received the Majlis' vote of confidence. Which Majlis?

The Majlis which is composed of people who were designated by the shah, since those who were the people's true representatives were prevented from being elected through the shah's security officials' torture and oppression. "When Bakhtiar was reminded that at one time he himself had questioned the Majlis' legality, he could not say a word because there was nothing to say."

"Our people are aware that the evil monarchic regime has no legal foundation. In fact, this regime is condemned by every law and legal principle. As for an Islamic Republic, which has been repeatedly spoken about by His Holiness Ayatollah Ruhollah Imam Khomeyni and the other leaders of Iran's national and democratic movement, a national Islamic republic will be created as a result of the Muslim Iranian nation's revolution. It has been repeatedly stated that the important thing is not a system's name, but its (?substance). Bakhtiar knows this. But in order to please General Huyser and the shah's (?masters), he talks nonsense. He pretends to ignore things and acts in such a malicious manner that he has even defined Saudi Arabia's feudal monarchy as an Islamic republic.

"Bakhtiar is also aware that, through its democratic revolution, the Iranian nation showed that it will (?no longer tolerate) a despotic political system and a dictator. The people want a political system that represents the people's genuine will."

"The nation wants its political and social rights to be protected, an end to the exploitation of the country's wealth by foreign monopolies, and the domination of the country's economic, political and military affairs by foreigners."

The second commentary says that "U.S. General Huyser and the illegal prime minister are formulating treacherous plans" and that "SAVAK'S and CIA'S spies are organizing terrorist groups for this purpose." The commentary then says: Spies of Huyser and Bakhtiar are preparing (?a list) of the supporters of His Holiness Khomeyni and of people who are opposed to the shah's regime. These spies are also mingling with the national and democratic forces. Although Bakhtiar said recently that security sections have been abolished in all ministries, this is totally untrue. The security agents are now continuing their activities under different guises.

"Dear workers: Oppose with all your might all moves designed to split your ranks and to create divisions among you. Resolve all your differences with wisdom and commonsense, and by adopting the necessary measures. Despite everything, our enemies want to deprive the national and progressive forces of their national and revolutionary movement's most effective weapon--unity. Their efforts have so far failed. But despite this, they will continue to try to create discord among the national and democratic forces.

"Our country's people and their national and religious leaders have been strengthening their ranks around His Holiness Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni. Also, all patriotic officers and soldiers have been supporting his holiness." "The Iranian nation has sacrificed its most distinguished sons in this great revolution, and neither Bakhtiar nor the American (?power) will be able to prevent the nation from achieving its aims."

The radio in Azerbaijani at 1845 GMT on 6 February carries a commentary which says that "in some cities the government is in the hands of the people." It also says that "Khomeyni is supported by the entire nation." The commentary also refers to General Huyser and says that "U.S. imperialism's representative, Huyser, and all American advisers must be expelled from the country." It then notes that "Bakhtiar's government is illegal" and that "the people will continue the struggle for a constitutional regime which will serve the country's interests."

AFGHANISTAN

REBELS CLAIM KILLING, CAPTURE OF GOVERNMENT SOLDIERS

BK071717 Hong Kong AFP in English 1708 GMT 7 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Peshawar, 7 Feb (AFP)--Twenty Afghan soldiers were killed on Monday in fighting between Muslim rebels in the Tagab district of Parwan Province west of Kabul, a communique of the Hezbi Islami Afghanistan published in Peshawar said today. The army had used helicopters to bomb villages and many houses were destroyed, the communique said.

The Hezbi Islami claimed that its fighters had captured about 100 soldiers last Friday during an attack on Amdesh, Guldesh and Kammu villages in Khunar Province (northeast Afghanistan).

INDIA

MRS GANDHI TO RUN FOR LOK SABHA SEAT FROM CHIKMAGALUR

BK031618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Mrs Indira Gandhi has said that she would again fight for the Lok Sabha seat from the Chikmagalur constituency provided she is allowed to do so. She was addressing a news conference in Bhopal today.

Asked whether the election commission's decision declaring the Chikmagalur seat vacant would be challenged in the Supreme Court, Mrs Gandhi said she had not yet decided about the matter.

GOVERNMENT OBJECTS TO BULGARIAN EMBASSY ACTIVITY

BK021540 Hong Kong AFP in English 1436 GMT 2 Feb 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 2 Feb (AFP)--The Foreign Ministry has advised the Bulgarian Embassy here to desist from publishing material in India objectionable to other countries with which India has friendly relations, an official spokesman said here today. The advice was given to the Bulgarian Embassy yesterday following the publication of a Bulgarian advertisement in a local newspaper regarding Bulgaria's border dispute with Yugoslavia.

The Indian Government is understood to have taken objection to the Bulgarian Embassy circulating such material locally.

MINISTER CRITICIZES PRESS FOR ASPERSIONS ON DIPLOMATS

BK031635 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The minister of external affairs expressed his concern over the tendencies on the part of the some periodicals to cast aspersions on foreign diplomatic missions in India and against the integrity of individual members of these missions. The minister deprecated this tendency since it is inconsistent with India's traditional hospitality and creates unnecessary misunderstanding and ill will.

A spokesman of the Ministry of External Affairs issued a statement in the wake of allegations published in some periodicals in the country regarding sale of liquor by some foreign diplomats. It is learned that Arab missions were particularly agitated at these reports and made several representations to the ministry in this regard.

CPM SCORES PRC POLICY TOWARD UNITED STATES

BK061641 Hong Kong AFP in English 1618 GMT 6 Feb 79 BK

[Text] New Delhi, 6 Feb (AFP)--The Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPM) has described Chinese policy for the past few years as resulting in helping "U.S. imperialism."

CPM General Secretary E.M.S. Namboodiripad described this Chinese policy as "unfortunate" at a press conference in Trivandrum, in his home state of Kerala, today. But that did not mean his party was prepared to equate China with America, he said.

Mr Namboodiripad said that ever since the visit to Beijing [Peking] of former U.S. Foreign Secretary Dr Henry Kissinger leading to the recent American tour of Deng Xiaoping [Teng Hsiao-ping], China's policy had unfortunately been helping U.S. imperialism.

The CPM, which rules two states, West Bengal and Tripura, both in the northeast, has been following a policy independent of both Moscow and Peking unlike the pro-Soviet Communist Party of India (CPI) or the various pro-Beijing "Naxalite" groups.

However, this was the second time in recent days the CPM had come out clearly taking a stand in opposition to China on certain issues. It made a public statement a few days ago refuting the charge that Vietnam had "invaded" Kampuchea in the recent developments there. The change of government in Kampuchea was hailed by the party.

Mr Namboodiripad said his party was opposed to China's present stand towards the Soviet Union and its alliance with the U.S.

PRC EMBASSY PERMITS TIBETAN REFUGEES TO VISIT HOMELAND

BK071603 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Feb 79 BK

[Text] About 15 Tibetans living in India plan to visit their homeland in the coming months. UNI [UNITED NEWS OF INDIA], quoting the Dalai Lama's bureau in New Delhi, says that this would be the first trip by any Tibetan refugees to Tibet since they crossed over to India 20 years ago. These Tibetans have been given permission by the Chinese Embassy for their visit.

PAKISTAN

LONDON TV INTERVIEWS PRESIDENT HAQ ON BHUTTO APPEAL

LD080026 London ITV Domestic Television Service in English 2200 GMT 7 Feb 79 LD

[Text] In Pakistan, lawyers for the former prime minister, Mr Bhutto, are trying to find new grounds for appeal against his death sentence imposed for ordering the killing of a political opponent. They visited Mr Bhutto in his death cell and said he was in good spirits though feeling the cold--apparently warders had taken away his heater.

Military ruler of Pakistan General Zia, who overthrew Mr Bhutto 18 months ago, talked about the Supreme Court's decision to dismiss Mr Bhutto's appeal. It was a split vote--4 to 3. Sandy Gall asked if the general was disappointed about it. [begin recording]

[Gen Ziaul Haq] Well, frankly speaking I am not, because there were seven judges and it is entirely up to them to consider it and to answer the judgment according to their consciences and according to their thoughts. In fact, it shows how independent the judiciary is. Out of seven judges three say something different and four say something different. And frankly speaking I admire, I have a lot of regard for the judiciary and I admire their sense of conviction.

[Question] Of course this is a split decision and very evenly balanced, four to three. Do you think in these circumstances it is morally impossible for you to hang Mr Bhutto?

[Answer] Well I would not personally like to comment on this as yet because this basically--the case is still technically under consideration of the court, or subjudice, and therefore any comment by me whether on moral grounds or technical grounds may likely create unnecessary impressions in the minds of the public who are going to review this. So I personally would say that it is not right for me to comment whether Mr Bhutto can be morally hanged or cannot be morally hanged just because the verdict is split.

[Question] Can you comment at all and you would react to a clemency appeal?

[Answer] I will not like to because since now I form a court by myself in order to review this clemency, mercy petition, I think it is not right for me to prejudge the case.

[Question] General Zia, can I just come back to this point about the split in the court: Do you not feel that you are in a very difficult and dangerous situation possibly, with this Supreme Court split 4-3 on a major issue of this kind, on an unprecedented sort of a case?

[Answer] As I told you before, as far as the legality is concerned, it is perfectly legal, and from my point of view and from the point of view of Pakistan and from those who are viewing it from abroad I think it shows again--I am sorry for repetition--it shows how independent the judiciary is.

[Question] Do you regret that this prodigiously long trial was ever started?

[Answer] No, not a bit. I have given, I may not have given anything at all to this country, but, Sandy, I have given them one thing--I have given them the rule of law. And I have proved there is nobody high or low who is above the law. That is number one. We have also shown how independent our judiciary is, and I have proven to the country that irrespective of any considerations the rule of law must be obeyed and must be respected.

[Question] There have been a lot of arrests. How many?

[Answer] Exact figures I may not be able to give you right off but it is, it runs into a few hundred. Yes, I accept that, but Pakistan is 73 million people, so out of that if in order to keep peace and tranquillity, if a few hundred are detained for the sake of law and order I do not think there is anything morally wrong in all this. [end recording]

THREE CONDEMNED IN BHUTTO CASE FILE MERCY PETITION

BK071727 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Mercy petitions on behalf of three prisoners condemned to death in the Nawab Mohammad Ahmed Khan murder case--Ghulam Mustafa, Rana Ifthikar and Arshad Iqbal--were filed in Lahore today.

The petitions have been addressed to the Punjab governor. The three convicts were awarded the death sentence by a full bench of the Lahore High Court along with two others--Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto and Mian Mohammad Abbas. The Supreme Court has rejected their appeals against the judgment of the Lahore High Court.

The petitioners on behalf of the three convicts stated that they did not intend to file a review petition before the Supreme Court.

Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto was today officially intimated [as heard] in the Rawalpindi district jail about the rejection by the Supreme Court of his appeal against the death sentence.

SIND PROVINCE CALM; GUNS STOLEN FROM POLICE ARMORY

BK071647 Hong Kong AFP in English 1645 GMT 7 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Karachi, 7 Feb (AFP)--Some unidentified people broke into the police armory near Larkana, hometown of former Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, whose death sentence in a murder case was confirmed yesterday, and looted guns, pistols and revolvers, reports reacing here said today.

This was the first incident of its kind in largely pro-Bhutto Sind Province, which has otherwise remained calm and peaceful despite fears of violence and sabotage.

CABINET MEETS; HAQ TO ANNOUNCE ISLAMIZATION MEASURES

BK071624 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Feb 79 BK

[Text] The federal cabinet meeting in Rawalpindi today under the chairmanship of Chief Martial Law Administrator Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq finalized some measures for the Islamization of society. These measures will be announced by the president on the 12th of Rabiul Awal [February].

The federal cabinet will meet again tomorrow morning to consider more measures for the Islamization of society. Today's meeting of the cabinet lasted 6 hours.

SRI LANKA

INDIAN PRIME MINISTER DESAI PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT

BK031217 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 3 Feb 79 BK

[Excerpt] The Indian prime minister, Sri Morarji Desai, arrived at the Colombo Airport Katunayake sharp on schedule at 1055 this morning and was accorded a warm and rousing reception.

Holds Talks With Premadasa

BK041104 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 4 Feb 79 BK

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Mr Premadasa, held official talks with the Indian prime minister, Mr Desai, at President's House in Kandy yesterday. The two prime ministers exchanged views on a number of common issues. Mr Premadasa outlined in detail the district minister's scheme which was motivated to the spread of economic growth of the rural sector and to do away with red tape.

Mr Desai also expressed views on measures taken to give back freedom of the press which was eroded during the earlier regime. Mr Premadasa explained the process contemplated to divest press media from government ownership.

Holds News Conference

BK061511 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 6 Feb 79 BK

[Text] Addressing a news conference (?on invitation), Morarji Desai expressed the view that power blocs in the world can only be eliminated if all countries subscribe to the policy of nonalinement.

Answering a question on the rapprochement between the United States and China and its implications in the world political scene, Desai said that he wished all countries would decide to be friendly with each other so that total disarmament could become a reality.

Questioned about the possibility of Mrs Gandhi returning to power, the Indian prime minister said that he cannot see much prospects of a political comeback by Mrs Gandhi. In this context, he reminded the newsmen that Mrs Gandhi recently decided to contest a seat from the south rather than from the north.

Replying to questions regarding recent events in Kampuchea, he expressed the view that no (?state) has the right to interfere in the internal affairs of another sovereign state.

Referring to China, Desai explained that from 1959 onward relations between New Delhi and Beijing [Peking] were not very satisfactory and that his government has offered better understanding and relations with China.

Replying to questions regarding his personal health, Desai said that he was at peace with himself and therefore he was very rarely [words indistinct].

Departs for New Delhi

BK061515 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 6 Feb 79 BK

[Excerpt] Morarji Desai concluded his 3-day state visit to Sri Lanka and left Colombo for New Delhi at about 1400 by a special flight.

Joint Statement Issued

BK061615 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Feb 79 BK

[Text] A joint statement issued at the end of Mr Desai's visit to Sri Lanka says that India and Sri Lanka will take steps to increase trade between them. They will also set up joint ventures for exports. It was agreed to have closer cooperation in cultural affairs, research and development.

Mr Desai and the Sri Lanka president, Mr Jayewardene, also reviewed the regional and international situation. There was close identity of views between them. The implementation of the India-Sri Lanka agreement of 1964 was also reviewed. Buddhist pilgrims from Sri Lanka visiting India are to be provided more facilities.

The statement says that Mr Desai invited the Sri Lanka prime minister to visit India at a mutually convenient time and that the invitation has been accepted.